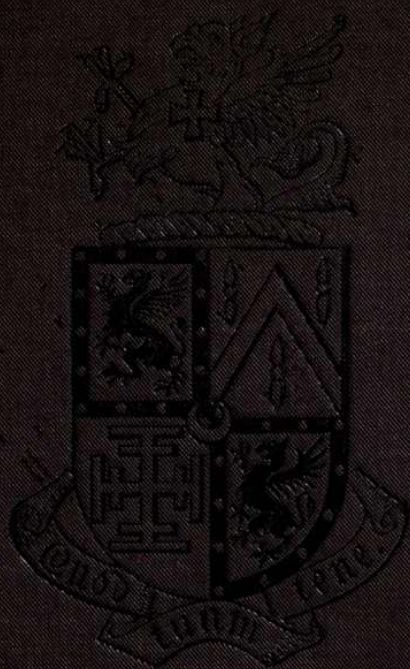


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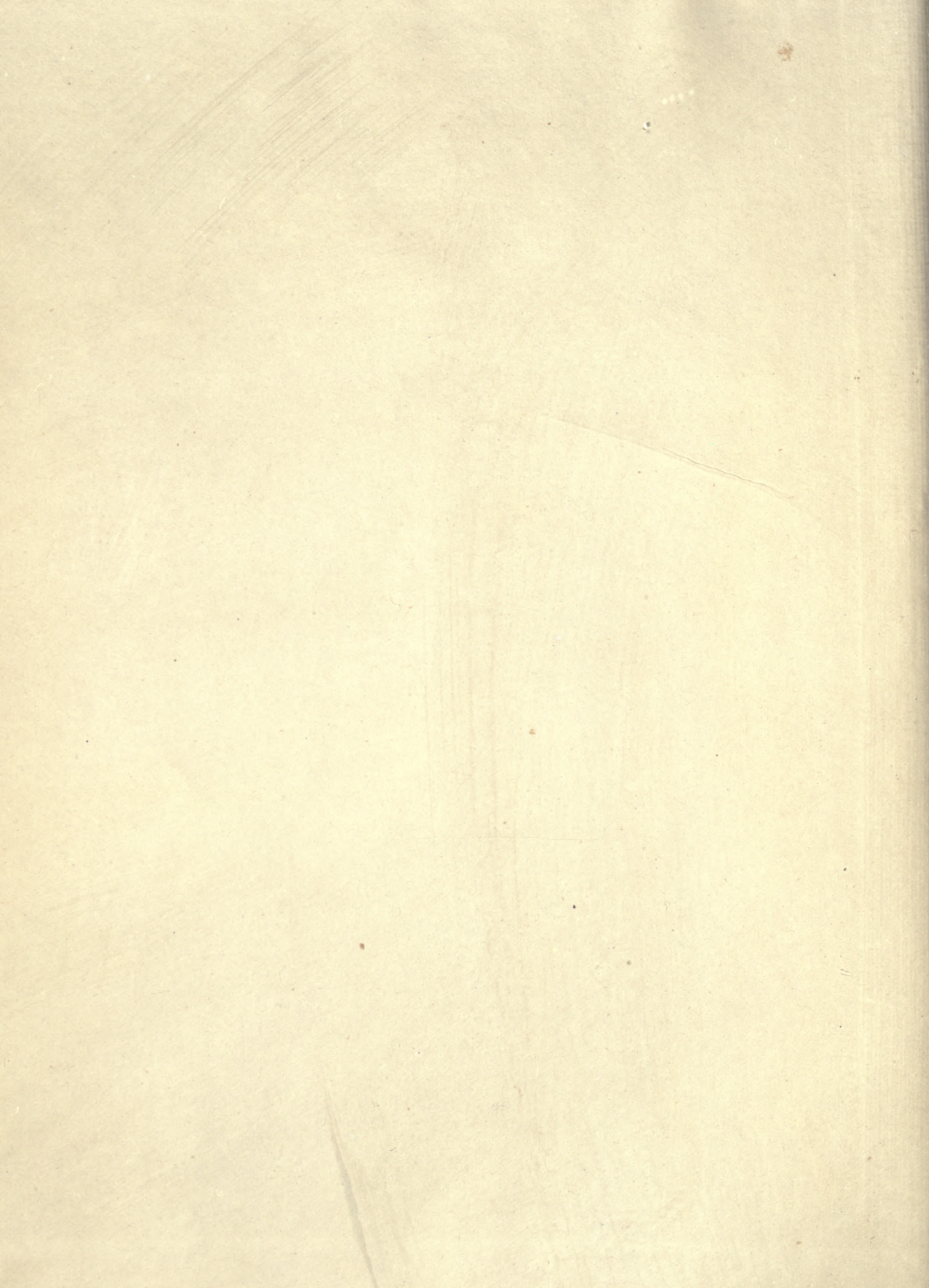
















# Chetham Society:

ESTABLISHED M.DCCC.XLIII., FOR THE PUBLICATION OF  
HISTORICAL AND LITERARY REMAINS  
CONNECTED WITH THE PALATINE COUNTIES OF  
**Lancaster and Chester.**

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## RULES.

1. That the Society shall be limited to three hundred and fifty members.
2. That the Society shall consist of members being subscribers of one pound annually, such subscription to be paid in advance, on or before the day of general meeting in each year. The first general meeting to be held on the 23rd day of March, 1843, and the general meeting in each year afterwards on the first day of March, unless it fall on a Sunday, when some other day is to be named by the Council.
3. That the affairs of the Society be conducted by a Council, consisting of a permanent President and Vice-President, and twelve other members, including a Treasurer and Secretary, all of whom shall be elected, the first two at the general meeting next after a vacancy shall occur, and the twelve other members at the general meeting annually.
4. That the accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the Society be audited annually, by three auditors, to be elected at the general meeting; and that any member who shall be one year in arrear of his subscription, shall no longer be considered as belonging to the Society.
5. That every member not in arrear of his annual subscription, be entitled to a copy of each of the works published by the Society.
6. That twenty copies of each work shall be allowed to the editor of the same, in addition to the one to which he may be entitled as a member.

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*Applications for Membership and other communications to be addressed to the Honorary Secretary.*







# LIST OF PUBLICATIONS.

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## NEW SERIES.

### FIRST YEAR (1882-3).

- Vol. 1. The Vicars of Rochdale. By the late Rev. Canon Raines, M.A., F.S.A. Edited by HENRY H. HOWORTH, F.S.A. Part I. *pp.* xiii. 200.
- Vol. 2. The Vicars of Rochdale. Part 2. *pp.* 201-391.
- Vol. 3. Lancashire and Cheshire Wills and Inventories at Chester, with an Appendix of Abstracts of Wills now Lost or Destroyed. Transcribed by the late Rev. G. J. PICCOPE, M.A. Edited by J. P. EARWAKER, M.A., F.S.A. *pp.* x. 262.

### SECOND YEAR (1883-4).

- Vol. 4. The *Catechisme, or a Christian Doctrine necessary for Children and Ignorant people*, of Lawrence Vaux, 1574, sometime Warden of the Collegiate Church, Manchester. Edited by T. G. LAW, Esq., Signet Library, Edinburgh. *pp.* cx. 111.
- Vol. 5. The Rectors of Manchester, and the Wardens of the Collegiate Church of that Town. By the late Rev. F. R. RAINES, M.A. Edited by J. E. BAILEY, F.S.A. Part I. The Rectors; Warden Huntingdon to Warden Chaderton. *pp.* xx. 100.
- Vol. 6. The Rectors of Manchester, and the Wardens of the Collegiate Church of that Town. Part II. Warden Dee to Warden Herbert. *pp.* 101-206.

### THIRD YEAR (1884-5).

- Vol. 7. The Old Church and School Libraries of Lancashire. With Bibliographical and other Illustrations. By RICHARD COPLEY CHRISTIE. *pp.* xiii. 215.
- Vol. 8. The History of the Parish of Poulton-le-Fylde. By HENRY FISHWICK, F.S.A. *pp.* 232.
- Vol. 9. The Coucher Book of Furness Abbey. Part I. The Furness Domains. Edited by the Rev. J. C. ATKINSON, M.A. *pp.* 260.

### FOURTH YEAR (1885-6).

- Vol. 10. The History of the Parish of Bispham. By HENRY FISHWICK, F.S.A. *pp.* 143.
- Vol. 11. The Coucher Book of Furness Abbey. Part II. Edited by the Rev. J. C. ATKINSON, M.A. *pp.* 261-536.
- [Vol. 12. The Crosby Records. Edited by the Rev. T. E. GIBSON and the late Bishop Goss.] (*In the Press.*)





# The Forty-third Report

(4th NEW SERIES)

OF THE

## COUNCIL OF THE CHETHAM SOCIETY,

*Read at the Annual Meeting held by permission of the Feoffees, in the  
Audit Room of Chetham's Hospital, on Friday, the 30th day  
of April, 1886, by adjournment from the 1st of March.*

---

SINCE the last Meeting there have been issued to the members Vol. CXIV. of the Old Series, being the concluding part of the *Diary of Dr. John Worthington*; Vols. V. and VI. of the New Series, being *The Wardens of Manchester*; Vol. VII., being *The Old Church and School Libraries of Lancashire*; and Vol. VIII., being *The History of Poulton-le-Fylde*.

It will gratify the members of the Society to have at length in their hands, after an interval of thirty-one years, the concluding portion (being Part II. of Vol. II.) of *The Diary and Correspondence of Dr. Worthington*. The volume has been edited by the PRESIDENT. A certain number of notes have been inserted, and a full Index to the whole of volume II. has been added, which helps to render accessible many matters of interest. The volume introduces some important topics of the time; it is full of literary interest; and it refers to many local persons and events which keep in view the fact that Worthington was a Manchester man. One of the noticeable features of his literary life was his conscientiousness as an Editor; he had the acquaintance of the best printers and correctors; and he exhibited some of the highest characteristics of the scholarly typographers. His editions of the works of Smith and Mede are perused with greater pleasure by reason of their admirable arrangement and regularity in printing, exhibiting a precision in orthography and punctuation and use of capitals and italics that is not always to be met with in books of that age. To Worthington are due the marginal

notes explaining the meanings of the Greek names given to the characters in Ingelo's *Bentivolio and Urania*; and he made many admirable suggestions for the successive editions of the *Divine Dialogues* of More.

The President is preparing for a supplementary volume a bibliographical catalogue of Worthington's writings, in which special attention will be given to his edition of the *Imitatio Christi*, called *The Christian's Pattern*, which has become a most scarce volume.

The two volumes containing the Memoirs of the Manchester Wardens have been derived from the MSS. of the late Canon Raines. These have proved to be very acceptable volumes to the members; and the wish has been expressed that they may be followed by the same compiler's Lives of the Fellows. The careers of some of the Wardens are open to further illustration. The resignation of Warden Wolton took place before Simon Hill, Notary-public of Edwin Archbishop of York, on 24 June, 1578. Henry Brooke, A.M., Head-Master of the Grammar School, and Fellow of the College from 1728 to 1757, has left an interesting sketch of Warden Wroe, of whom he says: "'Tis well known he was very fond of the character of his predecessor [Stratford], and therefrom endeavoured as far as he could to imitate his behaviour; and how happily he succeeded him 'tis needless to mention, since his memory is yet fresh, and not like to decay unless 'tis obscured by a higher character . . . . He was of such a happy composition in his general conduct as to make himself beloved and admired most by those that knew him best."

The volume on the Old Church and School Libraries has been compiled by the PRESIDENT. It supplies an account of twenty-five libraries, the histories of many of which have not hitherto been recorded, the very existence of some of them having been entirely unknown. There are very full accounts of the small libraries founded by Humphrey Chetham, and complete catalogues, from the original lists, are given of these libraries as well as of some others, including those of Hawkshead and Heskin. It is hoped that the value of the volume will be found to be enhanced by the numerous biographical and bibliographical notes which it contains. The frontispiece, presented to the members by the Editor, is from a photograph of the old library of Bolton Grammar School, shewing the oak bookcase and desk, the gift of Mr. James Lever, 1694.

The work on Poulton, by COL. FISHWICK, comprises the general and ecclesiastical history, with accounts of the old halls and families; and it forms a valuable contribution to the history of that portion of Amonderness. Leland described the district as sore destitute of wood; and Camden saw it as an open country bearing the name of "*The File*, for *The Field*," producing oats, the staple grain of the county, and as being full of fresh pastures, especially to the sea-side. The work comprises a detailed account of the seizure, in 1583, of Rossall Hall and another house belonging to Mrs. Allen, sister-in-law to the Cardinal, translated



from Dr. Bridgewater's *Concertatio*, 1594,—a work which contains other narratives and memoirs affording information concerning the sufferings of the Lancashire Roman Catholics. It may be suggested that a compilation of the local details in this somewhat rare volume, which was published at Trèves in 1583, 1588, and 1594, would make an important addition to the Chetham series. The narrative quoted by Col. Fishwick is remarkable for its detail and for the picture which it presents of the policy pursued towards the Roman Catholics in Queen Elizabeth's reign.

It should be stated, in reference to the works on the Monastic history of the district, that there has been a considerable demand from the Continent and elsewhere for the *Catechism* of Vaux included in last year's series. The study of this period of history has recently been enforced in an interesting lecture delivered at the Manchester Grammar School by the Rev. Dr. Jessopp, the historian of the Walpole Family. One important Lancashire *M.S.*, which needs editing, is the *Liber Loci Benedicti de Whalley*, in the British Museum additional *MSS.* It is in a very contracted hand of the fourteenth century; and Whitaker, in his *History*, has made but a sparing use of it.

It is matter for satisfaction to know that the Surtees Society, which continues to issue important works relating to the North of England, has recently decided to edit the proceedings of the Ecclesiastical Commission of the North, A.D. 1559, from the originals at York. These are the records to which Mr. T. G. Law, the editor of Vaux's *Catechism*, referred at the last annual meeting as containing matter of the highest importance; and much of our local ecclesiastical history will be found to receive illustration from this source.

The Rev. J. C. ATKINSON is making good progress with the *Coucher Book of Furness*, and it is hoped that the first portion will be very shortly ready for the press.

Many years since the Society contemplated an edition of the Poems and Verses of Byrom, including numerous unpublished pieces; and it is now a source of much satisfaction to the Council that one in every way so competent as Professor WARD, of the Victoria University, has consented to edit this work, which, enriched as it will be, not only with the hitherto unpublished poems, but with the annotations of the editor, will, it is believed, be of much interest as well to members of the Society as to all students of the literature of the eighteenth century.

In regard to other new volumes in preparation, the Council are pleased to announce that the authorities of Stonyhurst College have kindly permitted one of their old *MSS.*, relating to the Abbey of Whalley, to be edited. This *M.S.*, which deals with the Visitations of the Abbot in the townships of his huge parish during the years 1500–1538, and which has not been referred to by Dr. Whitaker, is almost unique in character. It is now being transcribed by Mr. JOSEPH HALL, M.A., of the Manchester Grammar School, who, at the request of the Council,

has undertaken to edit it. A volume of much interest may be expected from Mr. Hall, who has worked to advantage in the preparation of early English texts, and he is preparing for the Clarendon Press an edition of the Poems of Lawrence Minot on the wars of Edward III.

Dr. RENAUD has offered a set of transcripts made by Mr. Richard Simms (author of the *Manual for the Genealogist*), relating to Church Lawton, Cheshire, in connection with the Abbey of St. Werburgh, Chester. They are thirty in number, and will add some new facts to the account of the church in Ormerod, iii. 17.

A very important collection of twenty-one letters, written from Trinity College, Cambridge, by JOHN BYROM, one being in autograph and the others copies from the originals (partly in shorthand) by Miss Bolger (transcriber of the *Remains* of Byrom), has come into the possession of the Secretary of the Society, and will be available for one of the forthcoming volumes. These letters were sent by Byrom (a few by Tom Bentley) to John Stansfield of Catherine's Court, Princes Street, London, where the latter was manager in the warehouse of his father, a Manchester man; and they date from 6 December, 1718, to March, 1719, soon after Byrom's return from Montpelier. They concern the secret printing in London of an anonymous pamphlet written by "N. O.," i.e., Byrom himself, in defence of his master, Dr. Bentley of Trinity College, the discoverer of the Digamma, and the hero, at that time, of a very famous disturbance. There is much in the correspondence about Bentley himself, who said, in 1729, that his pupil "had always been an honest lad." The latter, who had a great affection for that profound scholar, humourously describes him in the first letter as "a great Monster that Havocks Universities and devours Privileges, as the Dragon of Wantley did Geese and Turkeys." Miss "Jug" Bentley often occurs in the correspondence, which exhibits Byrom's charming epistolary style. It supplies details, delightfully told, of University life and of his own domestic surroundings; and it further expresses his keen yearning (he had got his Master's degree in 1715) to return to his Manchester friends, to settle there and to succeed to the Chetham librarianship. For some reason these valuable and important letters were not included in Byrom's *Remains*, where they would have filled up the gap now existing in vol. i., page 43. Now it is remarkable that the anonymous tract, the progress of which through the press is by these letters traced, has hitherto been by Dean Monk, Halket and Laing, and other authorities, ascribed to Bentley himself. Monk's words are (p. 394), that he had no hesitation in attributing the tract, though anonymous, to the aggrieved Professor. Byrom urged his friend to get the tract printed with "incomparable secrecy," otherwise "the V.-C.," Dr. Gooch, "will eat me up as a man would eat an Apple John." The pamphlet, called *A Review of the Proceedings against Dr. Bentley* (London, 1719, 8vo), was completed towards the end of March, and its coming was eagerly anticipated by



the excited collegians. "It is a favourable aspect of the stars if the Books come in Monday's Coach; for they cannot fail of success coming under Jug's Auspices, whom I told you we expected on Friday, but to-morrow certain. I shall mount my Steed and go in Quest of her, and conduct her to the Knight her Father's Castle, as will Mr. Walker." The pamphlet was most successful, and Byrom was by all the town suspected of the authorship. His tutor, Dr. John Baker, "thankt me for it t'other day. 'Me, Sir?' say I. 'Well,' says he, 'I don't know who 'tis; but we are very much obliged to him.'" There are passages in the tract that remind one of Swift, as, *e.g.*, the hit at Dr. Fisher, — "with all the majestic blundering and discomposure imaginable." (p. 9.)

A promise has been made to the Society by the Rev. T. E. GIBSON, author of the *History of Lydiat Hall*, to contribute to its series some mortuary letters belonging to the middle of the seventeenth century, written by the Cavalier William Blundell of Crosby, whose excellent and original *Note-book* of his observations and reflections was published in the year 1880. These letters the Cavalier terms "bills of mortality"; for in them he notes the deaths of his neighbours and others, with comments upon their lives. Mr. Gibson has also offered to the Society an obituary record called "*The Harkirke MS.*," relating to the same neighbourhood and family. Harkirke, an ancient site, chosen apparently on account of the solemnity of its name, was a piece of ground in Sefton parish, which was walled round and set apart in 1611, by the father of the Cavalier, for the burial of the inhabitants of Crosby who were denied interment at the parish church. One hundred and thirty-one persons are noted as being buried there, including priests, among them some of the Cavalier's own kindred, who had "engaged themselves in a better militia." In 1629 Archbishop Laud interfered; Mr. Blundell was fined £2,000, afterwards reduced to £500; and the cemetery was closed. There is an introduction accompanying this *MS.* from the pen of the late Dr. Goss, who in 1844 edited for the Chetham series *Abbott's Journal*, and *The Trials at Manchester in 1694*.

A volume on *The History of the Chapelry of Stretford* has long been on the list of publications. The intended basis of this work was a *MS.* drawn up by the Rev. JOSEPH CLARKE, formerly Rector of Stretford, who bequeathed it to Bishop Lee under a promise from that prelate that it should be published; and it has for many years been in the hands of Mr. JAMES CROSTON for that purpose. Mr. Croston not being able to prosecute the task, it has been undertaken by Mr. DAVID KELLY of Stretford, with the assistance of Mr. J. E. BAILEY; and the Council anticipate that the volume will prove a welcome addition to our local history. Of the Manchester chapelries, there will then only be left for compilation the Histories of Salford and Newton; and the Council will be glad to receive suggestions for their preparation and publication.

Of the Old Series there now only remain to be issued Vol. CXIII.,

being the second part of the *Inventories of Church Goods*, and Vol. CXV., being the Index to Vols. XXXI.—CXIV. An effort is being made to issue these as soon as possible.

The Board of Finance of the Diocese are raising a special Fund for securing certain portions of the Diocesan buildings in South King Street, Manchester, for Diocesan purposes, among which would be strong rooms for the safe custody of the deeds and securities relating to the churches and parishes in the diocese. It is understood that the Chancellor of the diocese of Chester has given his consent to the removal from Chester of the old deeds relating to the Manchester parishes in case such provision is here made for them. These old documents will be of importance in investigating local history.

The Council regret that some of the old members of the Society have been removed by death. Many new members have, however, been placed upon the list. It is noteworthy that three gentlemen are willing to give their services as Editors, being prepared to take up subjects that fall into the line of their tastes. Suggestions for the preparation of works dealing with the aims of the Society will be entertained by the Council.

The following is a list of the new works proposed, including those already referred to. The volumes for the year 1885-6 (to be numbered X., XI., and XII.), will be taken from those at the head of the list :

*The Rectors of Wigan.* By the Hon. and Rev. G. T. O. BRIDGEMAN, M.A., Hon. Canon of Chester.

*The Coucher-Book or Chartulary of Furness Abbey*, Part I. The Furness Domains. Edited by the Rev. J. C. ATKINSON, M.A.

*The Mortuary Letters of William Blundell*; and *The Register of Burials at Harkirke, near Sefton.* By the Rev. T. E. GIBSON, and the late Bishop Goss.

*Bibliography of the Writings of Dr. John Worthington, including "The Christian's Pattern."* By R. C. CHRISTIE, Esq., M.A., President of the Society.

*Chetham Miscellanies.* New Series. Vol. I. Communications for this volume are invited.

*Visitationes exemptæ jurisdictionis Abbatis et Conventus Beate Mariæ Virginis de Whalley*, A.D. 1500-1538; with other contemporary documents relating to the same. From the originals now preserved at Stonyhurst College, Lancashire. Edited by JOSEPH HALL, Esq., M.A.

*The Coucher-Book or Chartulary of Furness Abbey*, Part II. The Yorkshire and other Domains. Edited by the Rev. J. C. ATKINSON, M.A.

*Histories of the Chapelries of Rochdale.* From the Raines MSS. By H. H. HOWORTH, Esq., M.A., F.S.A.



- The History of Bispham.* By Lieut.-Col. H. FISHWICK, F.S.A.
- Charters relating to Church Lawton and the Abbey of St. Werburgh, Chester.* By F. RENAUD, Esq., M.D., F.S.A.
- The Poems, &c., of John Byrom; a new edition with considerable additions.* 2 vols. Edited by A. W. WARD, Esq., Lit.D., M.A.
- The Ministers' Accounts of the Lancashire Chantryes.* By the Rev. J. H. STANNING, M.A.
- Lives of the Fellows and Chaplains of the College of Manchester.* From the Raines MSS.
- The History of the Chapelry of Stretford.* By Mr. DAVID KELLY.
- The History of the Chapelry of Salford.*
- The History of the Chapelry of Newton.*
- The Chartulary of Cockersand Abbey.* By J. P. RYLANDS, Esq., F.S.A.
- An Account of the Old Church and School Libraries of Cheshire, with bibliographical and other illustrations.*
- Selection from the papers of the Family of Kenyon, of Peel Hall.* Edited by the Hon. E. F. KENYON, M.A.
- The Surey Impostor,* by the Rev. ZACHARY TAYLOR, A.M. With a list of the tracts on the case of the demoniac of Surey, near Whalley, A.D. 1697, by the Rev. THOMAS JOLLY and others.
- The Common-place Book of John Byrom, including his Journal and Letters, for the years 1730-1.* Also, *Byrom's Letters on his "N. O." pamphlet,* in defence of Dr. Bentley, 1718-19. Edited by Mr. J. E. BAILEY, F.S.A.
- The Cheshire Armory* of the Rev. John Watson, M.A., F.S.A.
- The Accounts of the Constables of Manchester,* 1613-47.
- A Selection from Canon Raines's Literary and Antiquarian Correspondence.*
- Speeches of the late Mr. James Crossley, President of the Chetham Society, at the Annual Meetings.*

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[NOTE.—*The 40th Report ought to have been numbered 1st New Series, but, by mistake, the 41st was so numbered, and the 42nd was numbered 2nd. New Series.*]

**Dr.**    *The Treasurer in Account with the Chatham Society for the year ending February 28th, 1886.*    **Cr.**

	£	s.	d.
By Subscriptions.....	346	0	0
" Books sold to Members .....	36	5	8
" Consol dividends .....	7	5	0
" Chancellor Christie, for cost of Plate in "Old Lancashire Libraries" .....	4	15	0
" Bank interest .....	6	17	2
	401	2	10
Balance brought forward from last year .....	410	15	11

£811 18 9

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Byron Index .....	2	12	6
Cost of Carriage and making list of books recovered from Mr. Crossley's Library .....	1	4	2
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Notices and advertising Annual Meeting of 1884-5 .....	1	12	0
Carriage of books to Members .....	1	10	3

£150 17 11  
 Less paid on account, reported last meeting..... 120 0 0

" Sutton, for two vols. (9 & 35) bought to complete set for the Duke of Devonshire.....	30	17	11
" C. Simms & Co., "Old Lancashire Libraries," Vol. 7, New Series.....	0	16	0
Notices respecting surplus volumes ..	98	11	6
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Paid on account of Vols. 5, 6, & 8 ...	4	6	5
	9	8	6
" Langton, engraving signature of "Laurence Vaux." ..	112	14	11
" C. Simms & Co., part payment on account of Vols. 5, 6, & 8, New Series .....	0	4	0
	150	0	0

Balance in the Bank, Feb. 28th, 1886.....

319 13 4  
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J. JOSEPH JORDAN,  
*Treasurer.*



REMAINS  
Historical and Literary  
CONNECTED WITH THE PALATINE COUNTIES OF  
Lancaster and Chester.



VOLUME 10.—NEW SERIES.

MANCHESTER:  
Printed for the Chetham Society.

1887.

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## The Chetham Society.

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THE  
**History of the Parish of Bispham,**  
IN THE  
COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

BY  
**HENRY FISHWICK, F.S.A.,**

*Author of "The History of the Parochial Chapelry of Goosnargh,"*

*"The History of Garstang," "The History of Poulton-le-Fylde,"*

*"The Lancashire Library," &c., &c.*

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

1887.

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15/10/90



PRINTED BY CHARLES E. SIMMS.  
MANCHESTER.



## PREFACE.

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AS explained in the Preface to the *History of Poulton-le-Fylde*, although Bispham originally formed a part of Poulton, I thought it desirable to treat it as a distinct parish, and give its history in a separate volume.

Considering that there was a church or chapel in Bispham in the 12th or perhaps 11th century, the ecclesiastical history of the parish is not so complete as one would desire—this, no doubt, is in some measure accounted for by its dependency on the mother church of Poulton.

And it has happened here, as elsewhere in the north of Lancashire, whilst a list (more or less perfect) of the institutions of vicars and rectors has been preserved, not a vestige of a record has been left as to the appointments of the clergy to the smaller churches. The registers of Bispham church, although they go back to 1599, are very imperfect; and this, coupled with the almost entire absence of wills earlier than 1650, has made the genealogical investigations more than usually difficult. Notwithstanding this lack of some of the material so much wanted for a local history, I venture to hope that the present volume will be found to contain as complete a history of the parish as the circumstances of the case admit.

I must not omit to thank the Rev. F. J. DICKSON, B.A., formerly vicar of Bispham (now vicar of Ribchester), for his kind assistance, and to acknowledge my indebtedness to the Rev. Canon TONGE of Manchester.

The Index of Names has been compiled by my daughter JANE.

H. F.

THE HEIGHTS,

ROCHDALE,

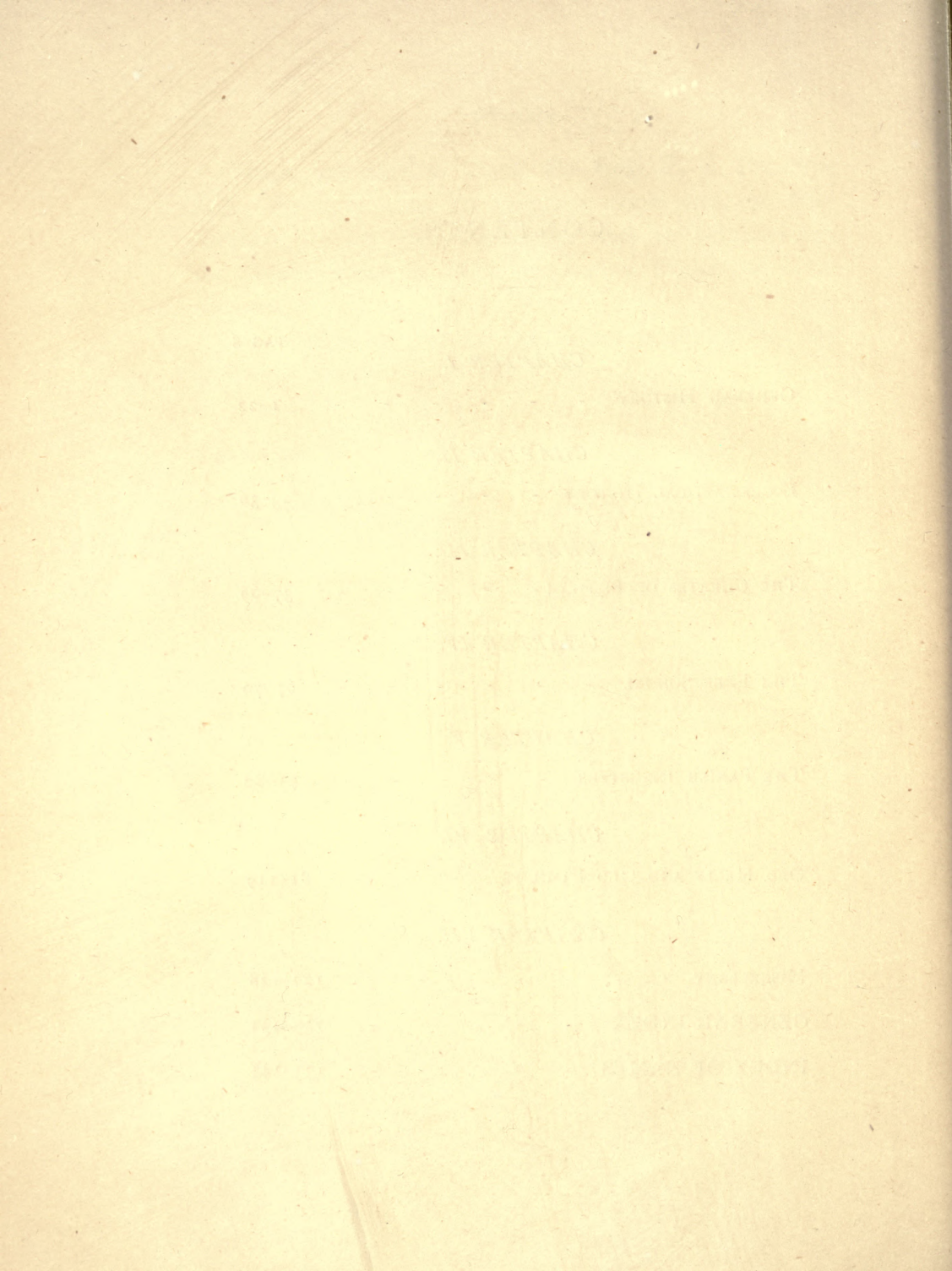
*March, 1887.*



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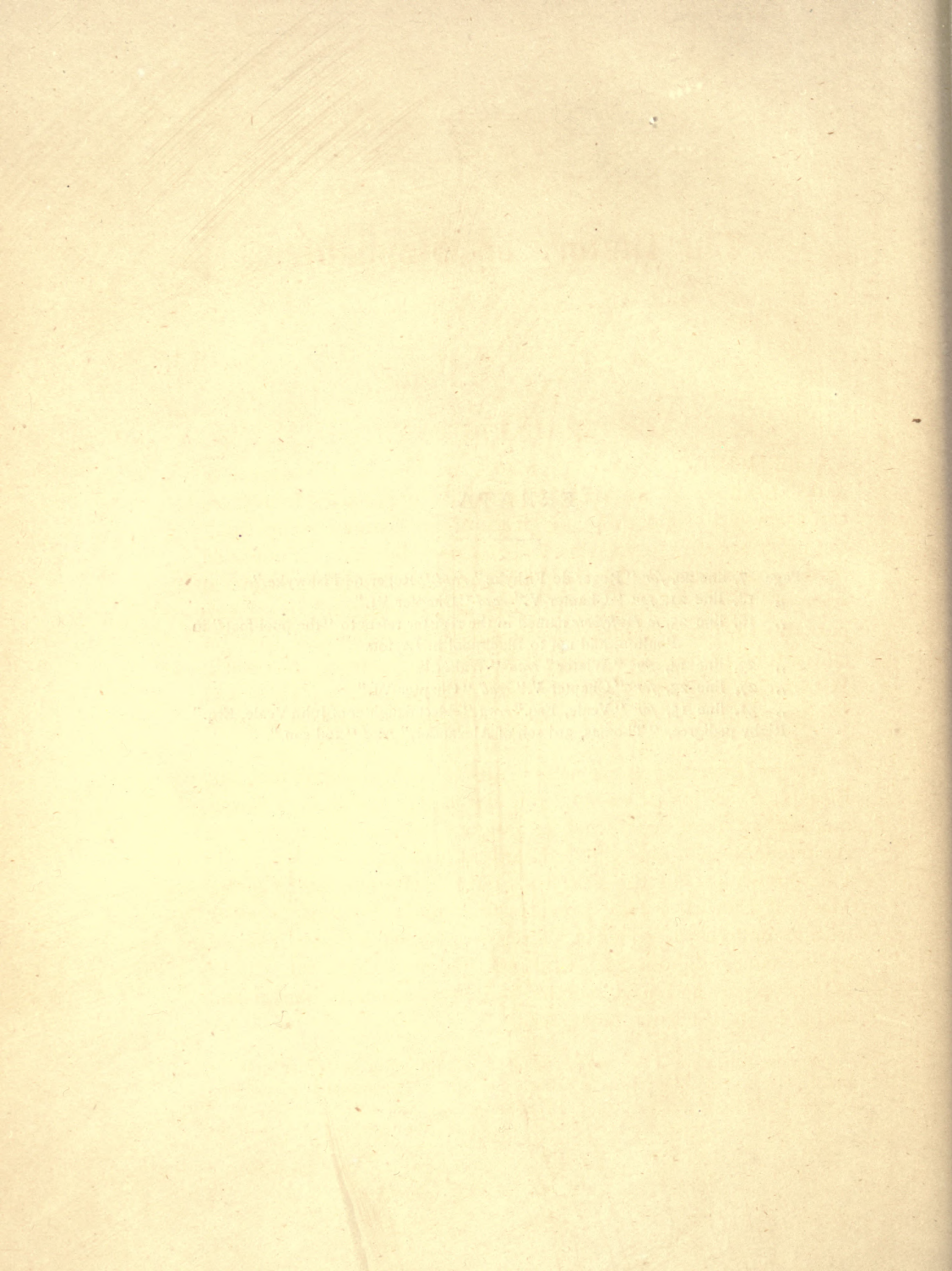




## ERRATA.

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- Page 7, line 20, *for* "Roger de Fishyke" *read* "Roger de Fishwyke."  
,, 18, line 21, *for* "Chapter V." *read* "Chapter VI."  
,, 18, line 25, *le Poolefoote* named in the register refers to "the pool-foot" in  
Poulton, and not to Blackpool in Layton.  
,, 23, line 14, *for* "Wlater" *read* "Walter."  
,, 27, line 23, *for* "Chapter V." *read* "Chapter VI."  
,, 31, line 15, *for* "Veale, Esq." *read* "eldest daughter of John Veale, Esq."  
Rigby pedigree, "Thomas, 3rd son of Alexander," *read* "2nd son."





# The History of Bispham.

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## CHAPTER I.

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### GENERAL HISTORY.

ALTHOUGH a Roman road ran close to the parish of Bispham, it no where touched its boundaries, and there can scarcely be said to be any trace of pre-Roman occupation,<sup>1</sup> the inference being that this long narrow slip of land, bounded entirely on one side by the Irish Sea, was left in its primeval state of forest and bog and moss until comparatively a late period. Its place-names furnishes us with evidence of the first cultivators of the soil : Angershome, Anglemosse, Norbreck, Warbrecke, Layton, Cradley Slack, Digham, Layton Raikes, and Whinney Hey, all have probably an Anglo-Saxon or Danish origin.

In the Domesday Book none of the townships are named, but Biscopham is set down as eight carucates, which is a larger quantity of land than what is assigned to any other place in Amounderness. The whole Hundred was held by Roger de Poictou, who about the year 1094 gave to the monastery of St. Mary of Lancaster two carucates of land in Poulton, together with its church and other of his possessions, whereupon, inspired by the same religious zeal, Godfred the sheriff gave the "tithes of Biscopham and whatever he had in Lancashire, houses and orchards" to the same monastery.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A stone celt, eight inches long, was found in 1881 when excavating near the Blackpool gas works. It is now in possession of Mr. R. Drummond of Blackpool.

<sup>2</sup> *Harl. MSS.* 5764, fol. 1. Cart. M. B. Marie.

Amongst the early owners of land here were the abbot and monastery of St. Peter of Salop and a family taking its name from the place, of which was Adam de Biscopham, who gave to the above-mentioned monastery all his lands in Biscopham and Norbrec. To this charter William le Boteler and William de Karleton, knights, were witnesses.<sup>1</sup> To the same religious house Bernardus, Bishop of St. David's (in Wales) granted of his Lordship of Biscopham a carucate of land and the tithes of Laton and Warbrec.<sup>1</sup>

In the 12th century Robert the abbot of Shrewsbury, with the consent of his convent, granted to William, son of the daughter of Aschealla, a carucate of land in Biscopham, which the uncle of Aschealla held in the time of Henry the king, paying at the feast of St. Mary 4s. per annum for all service. Among the witnesses to this charter were Richard Pincerna, Huctred de Sigeltune, Gamello, presbyter of Pulton, and Adam the dean.<sup>2</sup>

The monastery of Dieulacres in the 12th century had considerable possessions in Bispham and Poulton. William Pincerna, Lord of Warrington, who died in 1233, granted to the abbot of Dieulacres common of turbary in Angelmosse, and the right to wash sheep in the mere of Biscopham.<sup>3</sup> In 1252 William de Newton, son of Richard de Biscopem, licensed the abbot to free ingress for sheep washing in the pool or mere of Little Biscopem, and an agreement was shortly afterwards entered into between the abbot and William Karleton, knight, Richard de Thorneton, Gilbert Culchet, Adam Russell, and others, who granted to the Convent the right to wash sheep in Angolyhemmos and the pool of Little Biscopham.<sup>4</sup>

The abbot of Shrewsbury in a charter without date [but about the year 1265], re-leased to the abbot of Dieulacres the

<sup>1</sup> Dod. MSS. 110, Y.Y.Y. 21.

<sup>2</sup> Deed in possession of J. Weld, Esq.

<sup>3</sup> Harl. MSS., 2060.

<sup>4</sup> Dodsworth MSS., 66-112, and Chart. of Dieulacres.



'vils.' of Norbrec and Little Biscopham with the tithes of Laton.<sup>1</sup> William de Lichfield, abbot of Dieulacres, died seised in 1411-12 of a messuage, and ten acres of land in Bispham which he had from Almario de Bispham.<sup>2</sup> In the beginning of the 14th century, William le Botiller, a descendant of William Pincerna, held "a knights' fee in Laton, Warbreke, and Great Bispham, which consisted of ten carves of land, for which he paid yearly at the nativity of St. John the Baptist, 10s., and at Michaelmas, 6s. 8d.; for castleward, 16s. 8d., and suit to the county and wapentake, and 6s. 8d. called sake-fee.<sup>3</sup> Sak-fee was a fine paid to the court of the chief lord.

William le Boteller died about the year 1329, and was succeeded by his son William, who in 1338 [or 1340] levied a fine upon the manors of Laton, Bispham, and Warbreck, and other of his lands, whereby the same were granted to him and his wife Elizabeth for their lives, with remainder to their son Richard le Botiller and Joan his wife.<sup>4</sup> At this time the chief Lord of the soil was John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster. Sir William Boteller died 17th March, 1380, aged 71. A sketch of his life will be found in "The Annals of the Lords of Warrington." His eldest son Richard died before his father, and the family estates descended to John, except such portion as went to the widow of his brother Richard. The Butlers held Bispham, Norbreck, and Laton until the time of Henry VIII., when it was sold with Marton and other estates to the Fleetwoods, from which family it passed to the Cliftons of Lytham.

From a lay subsidy roll of fifteenths granted to the King in 1332 for Laton-with-Warbreck, the following inhabitants were taxed, viz. :

Thomas del Bouk'	-	-	-	-	ij <sup>s</sup> ij <sup>d</sup>
Nicholas del Idull	-	-	-	-	vj <sup>s</sup> viiiij <sup>d</sup>
Adam Cay	-	-	-	-	ij <sup>s</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Dugdale *Monast.*, p. 629. William le Boteller and Richard his brother were witnesses to the deed. <sup>2</sup> *Inq. post mort.* <sup>3</sup> Chet. Soc., vol. lxxiv p. 59.

<sup>4</sup> Duchy Records of Writ Diem Clausit (See Chet. Soc., Vol. lxxxvii., p. 193).

Johannis le Shepherd	-	-	-	-	iijs	jd
Nicholas le Taillor	-	-	-	-	iijs	viijd
Johannis fil. Regi	-	-	-	-	ijs	ix <sup>d</sup>
Wilhelmus fil. Thomas	-	-	-	-		xijd

For Bispham-cum-Norbreck were :

Alinor fil. Joh'is	-	-	-	-		xijd
Thomas de Eccleston	-	-	-	-	ijs	
Wilhelmus de Pullton	-	-	-	-		xijd
Adam' fil. Ad'	-	-	-	-	iijs	
Wilhelmus de Singleton	-	-	-	-	iiij <sup>s</sup>	
Henricus de Dutton	-	-	-	-	iijs	
Johannis le White	-	-	-	-		xviijd
Johannis fil. Ad'	-	-	-	-	ijs	
Adam' de Lithum	-	-	-	-	ijs	
Will' le Ponour	-	-	-	-		xvj <sup>d</sup>
Johannis del Bouk'	-	-	-	-		xiijd

In 4 Ric. II. [1380] a grant was enrolled from John le Botiller, knight, for Henry de Bispham and Richard de Carleton, chaplains of the manors of Laton (great and little), Bispham and Warbreck, with the whole of Merton.<sup>1</sup> In the year following a fine was levied at Lancaster, in which John le Botiller, of Warrington, knight, was complainant, and John de Haydock and Joanna his wife were defendants, of the manors of Laton and Bispham.<sup>2</sup> At the suit of John Ferynton a precept was issued 18th Nov., 13 Hen. IV. [1411] to the escheator to seize all the goods and chattels of Thomas Hesketh, Roger de Bispham, Robert de Horskare and Thomas Cay, who were outlawed for debt.<sup>3</sup> A Subsidy Roll of 37 Hen. VIII. [1545-6] gives the name of John Lyghtwell as having in Bispham goods rateable at iijs iiij<sup>d</sup>.<sup>4</sup>

Another roll dated 23 Eliz. [1580-81] furnishes :

Laton, John Anyon, in goods	-	-	-	-	vji <sup>i</sup>
Byspham, John Patricke, in lands	-	-	-	-	xxjs

<sup>1</sup> 32 Rep. Dep. Keeper of Records, p. 362.

<sup>2</sup> Roll at Lancaster.

<sup>3</sup> Rep. Dep. Keeper of Records, p. 172.

<sup>4</sup> Record Office, 37 Hen. VIII. 130-159.



Bispham, William Stopforthe, <sup>1</sup> in goods	- -	xj <sup>li</sup>
Warbrecke-cum-Laton, William Browne, in goods		iiij <sup>li</sup>
" " Nicholas Thomas, "		vj <sup>li</sup>
" " William Thomasson, "		viiij <sup>li</sup>

John Hodgson and William Bamber were "presentors," and not appearing, were fined xl<sup>s</sup>. each.<sup>2</sup>

The manor of Bispham, sometime before 1571, passed to Thomas Fleetwood of Rossall, who then held the entire parish. In 1835 the sole manorial lord of the parish was Peter Hesketh Fleetwood, who held a court leet and baron for Laton-cum-Warbrick and Great Bispham in October, at Blackpool, when the usual officers were appointed. The manor was subsequently sold to Colonel Clifton.

## LATON-CUM-WARBRICK.

To this township the Great Survey assigned six carucates of land, which at a very early date were divided into Great and Little Laton, which, together with Warbrick, make up the township of later years.

In a charter without date [but of the end of the 12th century] Henry de Carleton, son of Henry, gave to the monks of Stanlawe a right of way, beginning at the division between Little Laton and descending to a certain footpath between Staining and Little Carleton [see *History of Poulton*]. In another grant from the same donor mention is made of a ditch "of Cecilie" in Little Laton, extending eastwards towards "le Blackelache," and on the west toward "Stokynbride." The ditch of Cecilie no doubt took its name from Cecilia de Laton, who about the same date gave certain rights in Carleton to the monastery of Stanlawe.<sup>3</sup> About this time a contention having arisen between

<sup>1</sup> Hugh Stopforthe appears as a plaintiff in the Duchy Court in 28 Hen. VIII. [1543-4] against Jane Dalton, widow, the matter in dispute being land in Bispham, and in 44 Eliz., John Stopforthe claimed by conveyance from his father, John Stopforthe, land at Bispham.

<sup>2</sup> Record Office, 23 Eliz., 131-234.

<sup>3</sup> *Coucher Book of Whalley*, p. 421.

William le Boteller and the abbot of Stanlawe, concerning Staining marsh and land in Great Laton, an agreement was entered into whereby the abbot conceded to William le Boteller all the marsh beyond the ditch towards Great Laton, whilst to the abbot was granted all the marsh between the said ditch and Staining, it being agreed that the said ditch should for ever remain the boundary between Staining and Great Laton, and if there should chance to be any fish in the ditch the same should be divided equally between the abbot and Dominus William le Boteller.<sup>1</sup>

A few years later a similar agreement was made between the abbot and Richard le Boteller [who died about 1274-81] as to the marsh between Staining and Little Laton, the terms being that the latter took the marsh beyond the ditch toward Laton, whilst the former had assigned to him the marsh between the ditch and Staining, the ditch for ever to be the boundary between Staining and Little Laton.<sup>2</sup>

A charter was granted to William le Botiller, 41 Hen. III.<sup>3</sup> [1256-7] for a market and fair in Laton and for free warren in his lands there. This grant was produced by him in answer to a Quo Waranto<sup>4</sup> 20 Edw. I. [1291-2]. By it he claimed also the regulation of assize of bread and beer, and the privilege of wrecks of the sea and right to erect a gallows, all of which he said had been enjoyed by his ancestors from the time of the Conquest. The market was to be weekly on a Wednesday, and the fair of three days' duration on the eve, the day, and the morrow of S. Andrew the Apostle.

William Inge, who appeared as prosecutor for the king, made an attempt to prove that the privileges used by William le Boteller had been assumed. The jury, however, found that the liberties claimed had belonged to the ancestors of William de Boteller so long that the memory of man ran not to the contrary, and that these rights had been used in the manner alleged. As

<sup>1</sup> *Coucher Book of Whalley*, p. 422.

<sup>2</sup> *Coucher Book of Whalley*, p. 423.

<sup>3</sup> Rot. Chart. 26 Hen. III. N. 1.

<sup>4</sup> Plac de Quo War., Rot. 12 (20 Edw.).



to the free warren they asserted that the vill of Laton was within the limit of the chace of Edmund, the king's brother, which he held as a forest and had held for three years.

In the *Inq. Post. Mort.* of Edmund, there appears a rental for Laton of 20s. Near the close of the century William le Boteller gave to the abbot of Cockersand 20 acres of land in Laton to pray for the repose of the soul of wife Dionysia (daughter of Henry and Joanna de Lostock).<sup>1</sup> Early in the 14th century, William le Boteller held a knight's fee in Laton [see page 3]. In 1378 John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, issued a summons for levying a rate to make Henry of Bolinbroke a knight, when the receiver for Amounderness returned Sir William le Boteller, knight, as holding in Laton, Warbreck, and Bispham a knight's fee of the duke as of his manor of East Greenwich by fealty, and an annual rental of xxiijs ivd.<sup>2</sup>

From the *Inq. Post. Mort.* of Sir William Boteller, knight, who died 26 Sept., 1415, it appears that by deed dated at Laton, Thursday next after Easter, 3 Henry V. [1416], the manors of Great and Little Laton, Magna Bispham, Norbrick, Le pull [The Pool] and other lands had been granted to Roger de Fishyke, chaplain, and Thomas de Ashton, to the use of the said William Boteller and Elizabeth his wife.<sup>3</sup>

There was at this time a manor house at Laton, and some of the younger sons of the Boteller family lived there. In an indenture referring to a sale of land in Staynall, Margaret Boteller is described as widow of Richard Boteller of Laton, gentleman, deceased<sup>4</sup>, and in 1524, Alice, the late wife of Richard Boteller of Laton, leased part of the manor of Hackinsall.<sup>5</sup>

Sir Thomas Boteller of Warrington, who died 27 April, 1522, at the time of his death held the manors of Great and Little Laton, Merton, Warbreck, and Bispham of the king, the value thereof then being lxj<sup>li</sup> per year.<sup>6</sup> This Sir Thomas Boteler

<sup>1</sup> *Annals of Warrington*, p. 124.

<sup>3</sup> *Chet. Soc.*, vol. xcv. p. 113.

<sup>5</sup> *Dodsworth MSS.*, vol. liii. p. 99.

<sup>2</sup> *Dodsworth MSS.*

<sup>4</sup> *Harland's MSS.*

<sup>6</sup> *Inq. post. mort.*, 14 Henry VIII.

was the founder of the Warrington grammar school. He was succeeded by his son Thomas, who was born in 1495. In 1523 he was appointed receiver for the king of all his houses, manors, lordships, castles, lands and tenements in Lancashire and Cheshire. Very shortly afterwards he appears to have fallen into pecuniary difficulties, and to relieve himself he became party to a deed [dated 30 June, 1524] whereby he and Lawrence Bonvixi, merchant of Lucca, acknowledged to owe the king £3866 13s. 4d., for which debt the king was content to have delivered to him within six years certain velvets, satins, silks, malvesees, and other merchandise; and it was also covenanted that a recovery should be suffered by Thomas Boteler and George Colwicke, esquires, of the manors of Burtonwood, Laton, Sankey, and Warrington, for the better assuring the fulfilment of the conditions of the deed.<sup>1</sup>

In 1538 Sir Thomas leased the site of his manor of Laton to Henry Kirkby, gentleman, which was then in possession of Katherine Kirkby, the lessee's mother.<sup>2</sup>

The money owing to the king in 1524 was duly paid, and letters patent, under the seal of the duchy and dated 5 April, 34 Henry VIII. [1543] were issued, whereby the various manors were re-granted to Sir Thomas Boteler.<sup>3</sup> Only three days afterwards, Laton was sold to John Brown, citizen and mercer of London, for 500 marks,<sup>4</sup> who sold it to Thomas Fleetwood of Rossall. About the year 1549 the re-conveyance of the manor from the crown to Sir Thomas Boteller, having only the duchy seal attached to it, Queen Mary in the 1st year of her reign [19 March, 1554] "because it appeared that king Henry VIII. had promised that Sir Thomas Butler should have the said grant under the great seal, she willing to perform her father's promise, and to remove all doubts and for greater security of the said manor to Thomas Fleetwood, and in consideration of the faithful

<sup>1</sup> Deed in Warrington Museum (*See Annals of Warrington*, p. 436).

<sup>2</sup> Dodsworth MSS., liii. 99.

<sup>3</sup> Bold Deeds.

<sup>4</sup> Bold Deeds.



services done by the said Thomas Fleetwood to her father, did grant and confirm to the said Thomas Fleetwood, his heirs and assigns, the manor of Great Laton, with its rights and appurtenances, to hold for ever.<sup>1</sup>

After the death of Thomas Fleetwood the manor passed to his son William Fleetwood, who in 1583 appeared as a complainant in the Duchy Court against John Massie and others, when he alleged that his father was in his lifetime seised of the manor house and demesnes of the manor of Great Laton for his life, and then the estate was vested in his executors for twelve years after his death, for the performance of his will, the remainder to come to him, the said William Fleetwood. Thomas Fleetwood died on All Saints' Day, 1570, and by his will made Bridget his wife his executrix, and she duly entered and took possession of the premises, and about six years ago let the same to John Massie, gentleman, for the remainder of the twelve years, which expired at the feast of All Saints, 1582. At the request of the defendant and of Sir Gilbert Gerrard, knight, Master of the Rolls, he (the complainant) had let the manor house, with the tithes of corn and grain, to John Massie for another year, which ended on All Saints' Day, 1583, and an agreement was drawn up and signed whereby defendant was bound to give up possession in ten days after the expiration of one year, which he utterly refused to do, and in riotous manner he kept possession. On the 13 November last past complainant sent his servant in a peaceable and quiet manner to drive off the cattle of defendant from the premises. This was resisted by the defendant, assisted by one Richard Hodgson and John Rowe, who arrived with long piked staves, assaulted the servant, and kept possession of the manor house. Moreover the defendant pulled down all the enclosures, fences and ditches, and suffered the mansion house of the manor to decay and become so ruinous that it is ready to fall down. The complainant

<sup>1</sup> Title Deeds.

prays for an injunction to prevent defendant doing further damage, and that he may have possession of his property.<sup>1</sup>

A few years later, namely, in 42 Eliz. [1599-1600], Edmund, Thomas, Robert, Edward, and Francis, sons of Edmund Fleetwood, commenced a suit against John Massie and Anthony Veale to recover lands and tenements in Layton and Bispham. The answer of the defendant has been preserved. John Massie admits that William Fleetwood was heretofore lawfully seised in his demesne of fee simple or of some other estate of inheritance, of messuages, lands, and tenements situate in Little Layton, late in the occupation of one George Hodgson and John Hodgson of the ancient yearly rent of 20s., and also in certain other lands and tenements in the joint or several tenures of Henry and Richard Hodgson at the ancient yearly rent of 20s.; And also in certain other lands, &c., situate in Little Layton, in the tenure of Henry Hull and Will'm Hull at the ancient annual rent of 20s.; and of certain other lands and tenements, &c., situate in Little Layton, in the tenure of Thomas Salter and John Salter at the ancient rent of 20s.; and also of and in one cottage with the appurtenances also in Little Layton, in the tenure of Thomas Hodgson; and of and in one windmill, also in Little Layton, now or late in, &c., of James Massye, Esq., deceased, late father to this defendant; and also of and in one messuage or tenement with all lands, &c., situate in Great Bispham, in the tenure of James France, at the ancient, &c., of 15s.; and a close of arable, and in one parcel of meadow, containing, by estimation, 3r., lying and being in the Carre, lately enclosed in Great Bispham, now or late in the tenure of John Higginson; and also of and in one other messuage or tenement with the appurts lying in Great Bispham, now or late in the occupation of Margaret Rossall, widow; and also of and in a messuage or cottage with, &c., and called Landes tenement in Great Bispham, now or late, &c., of Henry Rossall, at the annual rent of 14s., and are part of the lands in variance; and that the

<sup>1</sup> Record Office, *Duchy Pleadings*, 89, F. 2.



said William Fleetwood, long before any conveyance or assurance was made to the plaintiffs or to their said father, did to this defendants knowledge by his deed dated about the 16th of Elizabeth [1573-4], in consideration of £468 paid him by defendants said father, granted and conveyed unto the said James Massie, defendants father, the said messuage and lands before mentioned, together with common of pasture in a certain common or waste called the Hawes in Layton, to the said messuage, to be from thenceforth used and taken at all times with their beasts and cattle, manuring and occupying the said lands and moss and turbary in a certain moss called Great Marton Moss, in Layton, to be burned within the said messuages, and to be from time to time appointed and set out by the moss Reeves of the said moss. To have and to hold the said messuages, &c., to defendants father, his heirs and assigns for ever. By force whereof James Massie, defendants father, entered into the said messuages, &c., and did in his lifetime receive and take the issues and profits of the same. James Massie, defendants father, died seised of such estates, and after whose death the said messuages, &c., came to defendant as heir, who by force thereof entered upon the said messuages, &c., and still holds them. Anthony Veale, the other defendant, gave evidence that long before the said complainants, or their father, had anything in the lands mentioned in the bill of complaint or any part thereof, one John Hulton of Darley, gent., and John Hodgson of Carleton, gent., now dec. were heretofore lawfully seised in fee or fee tail of a messuage or tenement situated in Great Marton, and of 16 acres of arable land, meadow and pasture, or thereabouts, belonging thereto, being parcel of the messuages and lands mentioned in the bill. And they the said John Hulton and John Hodgson being so seised by deed of feoffment made in or about the 38th of the reign of Elizabeth [1595-6] conveyed to this defendant for £107 the messuage lands, &c., together with right of common of pasture at all times of the year on such parts of the waste ground in Great Layton, commonly called Layton Hawes, as hath not lately been sodded out, marked or ap-

pointed to be enclosed and severed from the residue of the said common or waste ground by William Fleetwood, Esq. And also common of turbary for turve to be reasonably spent in and upon the tenement in the Moss of Layton, called Marton Moss, so long as moss shall there endure, to be taken in such convenient place as shall be appointed by the said Wm. Fleetwood, his heirs, assigns, or officers, not displacing this defendant or his heirs from the accustomed place where heretofore turves have been had for said tenement so long as moss for turves shall in the place continue, to have and to hold the same, his heirs or assigns for ever. By force of this conveyance he entered upon the premises, was and is yet lawfully seised, receives the profits thereof. He denies all or any of the charges of riotous behaviour in cutting of mares' manes and tails, spoiling, breaking and destroying of turves, and brickstones, and unlawfull assembling together there or any other the misdemeanors or offences mentioned in the said bill of complaint, and this defendant denies that William Fleetwood in the month of May, 38 Eliz. [1596] by feoffment gave and assigned to Edmd. Fleetwood, father to the complainants, for ever, all and every the manors, messuage, lands, &c., mentioned in the bill, except such as in the bill is excepted as is pretended in the bill, or by force thereof Edmd. Fleetwood, complainants father, at any time was lawfully seised in his demesne of all the said manors, &c., or that the said Edmd. Fleetwood did by lease conveye for the term of 99 years for and under the yearly rent mentioned in the bill, or that the complainant was lawfully possessed of the manors, &c. Denies that all the deeds, other writings and evidences, concerning the manors, &c., and especially the deed which mentions all the messuage, cottages, and heriditaments formerly aliened or sold by Wm. Fleetwood, other than this defendant, does keep for the preservation of his right and title to the several tenement and lands purchased as aforesaid, are of late come into the custody of these defendants as alledged; Or that these defendants joined with other confederates about three years since got possession of the most part of the messuage,



&c., to the value of £100 by the year, or that defendants wrongfully claim divers estates by color of having the said deeds, or that for want of the said deeds, the complainants, nor their father are not able to set out the particular messuages and lands so excepted and formerly aliened by Wm. Fleetwood as aforesaid ; Or that under color that there was much more lands formerly aliened by Wm. Fleetwood than indeed there was, these defendants have for three years possessed the most part of the manors, &c. ; Or that no part of the waste commons, or any royalty in the manor were aliened or sold by Wm. Fleetwood before the supposed assurance made to the complainant ; Or that these defendants have about the month of January, mentioned in the bill, and often times before taken and detained divers wrecks happening within the manor of Layton, belonging to the complainants, or digged turves at their pleasure upon the wastes called Marton Moss, and used the liberty of fishing there to the hindrance of the complainants as they may lawfully do as these defendants think ; Or that about the month of April, 42 Eliz. [1600] being so lawfully possessed of the manor, &c., having caused divers turves to be dug within the precincts of the manor of Layton, these defendants and their other confederates yet unknown caused disguised unknown persons in the night time maliciously to spoil and tread in pieces the turves and leaving them unfit for use ; Or that these defendants or any other of their confederates at their instigation about two years since, and since the last general pardon cause the hair and manes and tails of the complainants fathers horses being put unto the said waste grounds (by licence of the complainants) to be cut ; Or that these defendants or other the parties in the bill of complaint named, in or about the month of May, 42 Eliz. [1600] by threatening words and speeches used to the brickmakers of complainants father did cause them to leave their work and hinder the complainant and his work ; Or that these defendants caused eighty tenants of the manor to keep away, and not to do their accustomed service at the court. [The remainder is faded.<sup>1</sup>]

<sup>1</sup> Record Office, *Duchy Pleadings*, 42 Eliz., F. 14.

The further evidence of the defendants is contained in the following interrogatories and answers.<sup>1</sup>

1. Do you know or have heard that in or about 42 Eliz. divers turves were digged and laid to dry in Layton Hawe, in a peice of ground called Buttlers Field, being within the waste ground of the manor of Layton, by such persons as were appointed by Edm. Fleetwood, father of the plaintiff. . . . .<sup>2</sup>

2. Whether about the month of May, 42 Eliz. did Edm. Fleetwood, father to the defendant, appoint and set certain persons to dig clay and make bricks in certain waste ground there belonging to the lord of Layton ; whether the workmen were told that privy seals would be served upon them, were compelled to leave off, and what other speeches were used towards them.

3. Whether you have known or heard that John Massie, gent., one of the defendants, has prevented any the inhabitants within the manor of Layton not to appear and do their service at the court holden within the manor of the plaintiffs or their father, and whether any thereby refused to offend.

4. Whether in or about Pentecost last two years, viz. : 42 Eliz. [1599-1600] did John Massie or any the defendants assemble themselves together with any other inhabitants of the manor of Layton at the house of one Emma Carleton, widow, and confer there as how they might withstand the plaintiffs, or their father, in their demands and title to the manor of Layton or the common of the Hawes or Marton Moss ; how many persons were assembled there, were there 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 of them, did they there confederate ; whether any articles were set down amongst them in writing, and to stand together to maintain their title against the plaintiffs or their father ; did they enter into bond to carry out the same ?

5. Have you heard, &c., that about four years the manes and tails of certain horses were cut and mangled in the common of Leyton, called the Hawes, put there by the plaintiffs father ;

<sup>1</sup> Record Office, *Duchy Pleadings*, 42 Eliz., F. 17a, b.

<sup>2</sup> MS. defective.



by whom or by whose procurement were they so cut and mangled ; whether done in the night or in the day ; whether were you or any of the defendants or inhabitants of the lordship of Layton, or any their tenants doers therein, or consenting or privy thereto, and say for what cause or consideration was the same so done ?

John Massie, of Little Layton, gent., aged about 53, to the first interrogatory says he heard that certain turves were dug by Mr. Fleetwood's appointment in the common called the Hawes, and that they were trodden in peices, but by whom he knows not. To the second, he deposed that Edm. Fleetwood, as he heard by the workmen, did appoint certain brickmen to raise clay for making bricks in a parcel of ground belonging to several tenants in Marton, as well of his own, as others, and he hath been credibly informed, upon complaint to him, this examinant, made by his own and other tenants did send warning to them to continue the same or otherwise to answer the same at their peril. To the third, he says that he, together with others, did take legal opinion whether they were bound by their conveyances to appear at Mr. Fleetwood's court or not, and in reply were told that they were discharged and freed from attending, so did not appear. To the fourth he deposed, that about two years ago, he with others, whom he doth not remember, did meet at the house of one Emlinge Hull, and there had conference touching the defence of their several rights unto the common called the Hawes, but can not answer to the number present. Denies binding together by bond one to another. To the fifth says he hath heard by creditable report that there hath been the manes and tails of horses cut in the Hawes, but whose they were, or by whom they had been cut he knoweth not.<sup>1</sup>

The William Fleetwood referred to as holding the lordship of Layton was the son of Thomas Fleetwood (the 1st of Rossall), by his second wife, Bridget, daughter of Sir John Spring ; he

<sup>1</sup> These depositions were taken at Preston, 10th Jan. 45 Eliz. [1603], by force of a commission to Edward Langtree, Esq., William Hesketh, Edward Veale, and Henry Bannister, gentlemen.

inherited it from his father, and he or his son had it as late as 1649. By an indenture dated 29 Aug., 1649, Robert Bamber of Great Bispham, yeoman, brother to John Bamber, late of Lytham, deceased, granted to Robert Bamber, son of William Bamber of Blackpool, yeoman, a messuage in Great Bispham, with ten and a half acres of land with common pasture for all manner of cattle, levant, and couchant, upon the said tenement, in so much of Laton Hawse as hath not lately been sodded, marked out, or appointed to be enclosed by William fleetwood of Ellinge, in the county of Middlesex, deceased.<sup>1</sup>

From the evidence of other deeds of about this date it appears clear that William Fleetwood died about 1642; it is, however, possible that he may have been the son of the first-named William. In any case shortly after the manor reverted to the Rossall branch of the family. The Fleetwoods did not, however, hold all the land, as William Bamber of Poole, yeoman, whose *Inq. post. mort.* was taken 12 Jan., 1608-9, was seised in fee of a messuage, 60 acres of land and moor in Layton and Warbrick, with right of pasture in Layton Hawes, which he had of the King by the 200th part of a knight's fee.<sup>2</sup>

The question of the Lord of the Manor's right to hold a Court Leet and Court Baron was revived again in 1712, when the freeholders and inhabitants took combined action, when the following agreement was entered into.

Wheras Edward fleetwood of Rossall, Esqr, ptends to have a right to keep a Court Leet and Court Baron within and for the Mannor or pretended Mannor of Layton, and to inclose part of the comon called Layton Hawyes, lyeing within Layton-cum-Warbreck and Marton, and hath caused turves to be duged upon and carried away from off the s<sup>d</sup> common, and hath sold moss and turves from off Marton moss, and doth by himself, his servants or agents endeavour to hinder the inhabitants of the township of

<sup>1</sup> Deed in possession of Mr. W. Asburne.

<sup>2</sup> *Inq. post. mort.*, vol. xx., No. 1.



Bispham (w<sup>ch</sup> he pretends to be parcell of the Mannor or pretended Mannor afors<sup>d</sup>) from getting sandstones or any other stones lyeing between Layton and the sea, under full sea mark, and alsoe betweene all other outgrounds and y<sup>e</sup> sea, under the sea mark, within the pretended Mannor. By reason whereof several suits are likely to arise between the s<sup>d</sup> Edward fletewood and the s<sup>d</sup> inhabitants of Bispham, and also the inhabitants of Marton and Layton-cum-Warbreck (w<sup>ch</sup> two last-named townships he, the s<sup>d</sup> Edward fletewood, doth likewise pretend parcell of the s<sup>d</sup> Mannor or ptended Mannor). The charge and expense in and about w<sup>ch</sup> s<sup>d</sup> suits Thomas Singleton and William Butcher have, as far as may concern the s<sup>d</sup> township of Bispham, undertaken, disbursed, and lay out, and to see the same suits duly managed on the part of the s<sup>d</sup> inhabitants of Bispham. Now we, whose names are subscribed, owners and freeholders of land, tenements, and cattell within the s<sup>d</sup> township of Bispham, do hereby, for ourselves severally and for our several exo<sup>s</sup> and adm<sup>ts</sup>, agree and promise to and with the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas Singleton and William Butcher, their exo<sup>rs</sup> and adm<sup>rs</sup>, that we, our exec<sup>rs</sup>, our adm<sup>rs</sup>, shall and will contribute and pay unto the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas Singleton and William Butcher a pporsonable share and portion of such sum and sumes as shall become due to be payed by all the freeholders and owners of land in Bispham, for and as their pporson of costs to be expended in and about the said suits . . . . . according to the quantity of land, etc., by us severally enjoyed in the said Mannor . . . . . and w<sup>ch</sup> we shall and will, on the request of the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas Singleton and William Butcher, execute, or join with such of the s<sup>d</sup> inhabitants of Marton and Layton-cum-Warbreck as shall be willing to defend or psecute to . . . . the said . . . . in execusōn of such articles of agreement or other instrum<sup>ts</sup> in writing unto the s<sup>d</sup> Thomas Singleton and W<sup>m</sup> Butcher, and to John Hull, William Bamber, Edw<sup>d</sup> Veale, Esq., Lawrence Bayley, Richard Butcher and Robert Bamber, yeom<sup>n</sup>, their exo<sup>rs</sup> and adm<sup>rs</sup>, for paying our proporsonable parts of all such sums of money as shall be by them laid

out on the acco<sup>t</sup> aforesaid, or their Counsell, learned in the law, shall be advised, etc. As witness our hands the 22nd day of May, anno R.R. Anne, etc., 1712.

John Capper	Robeart Eccleston.
his x mark.	Margret Anyon, widow.
Richard Singleton.	Richard Wild.
James Cleg	Richard Tinckler.
his x mark.	John Butcher.
James Pearson.	Robart Roskell.
Robert Rowe.	Mary Bigerstaffe, widow.
Wm. Bamber.	Wm. Whitehead.
John Hull.	William Capper.
John Salthouse.	John Singleton.
Widow Butcher.	William Bamber. <sup>1</sup>

The Manor of Layton was sold in 1841 by Sir P. H. Fleetwood to Thomas Clifton of Lytham, Esq., who already held Laton Hall, and whose descendants now have them both. No Court has been held for many years. Laton Hawes was "inclosed, allotted and divided" by Act of Parliament passed in 1767. Layton Hawes was for many years the scene of an annual horse race. (Laton Hall, see Chapter V.)

In this township is the modern town of BLACKPOOL, which took its name from a large pool with a black peaty bottom, which in 1415 was described as "Le pull" [see page 7]. In the Poulton Church Registers in 1592 and 1594 occurs "le Poolefoote," and in 36 Eliz. [1593-94] one of the places in Bispham about which Edward Singleton and his wife were in dispute with John Bradley, John Massie, and others was "The Poole."<sup>2</sup> William Bamber, who died 12 Oct., 1597, was described as "of Poole in Layton."<sup>3</sup> In the Parish Registers of Poulton, about 1599,

<sup>1</sup> Original MS. From another MS. it appears that the costs of this suit amounted to 6d. per acre on the lands in Bispham.

<sup>2</sup> Record Office, *Duchy Records*, 36 Eliz., cxxvi., s. 22.

<sup>3</sup> *Inq. post. mort.*, vol xx. No. 1. Record Office.



often appears "the poole," and in November, 1617, the name Blackpool occurs, and it also appears in the *Inq. post. mort.* of Edward Rigby in [1629-30]. This black peaty sheet of water (which was near Fox Hall) was subsequently drained, and the land cultivated. The village of Blackpool seems to have consisted in the early part of the eighteenth century of a few clay cottages plastered upon wattles, the thatched roof being supported by crooks.

According to tradition,<sup>1</sup> one Ethart Whiteside, about the year 1750, was the first to open a house of entertainment in Blackpool, which consisted of a long thatched building, which subsequently became a licensed inn. Other hotels soon followed, but the first of any pretensions was Forshaw's. In 1769 the total number of cottages making up the village would not exceed 20 or 30, and there was not a shop in the place. In 1788 W. Hutton<sup>2</sup> records that although "about sixty houses grace the sea bank it does not merit the name of a village, because they are scattered to the extent of a mile." Of the "superior houses," he says, "none of them appear to be more than seven years old," yet in the August of that year the visitors here numbered about 400; for places of amusement there was "a pretty grass walk on the verge of the sea bank divided from the road with white rails, it was six yards wide and 200 long, with an alcove at one end but at the other a vile pit." There were also bowling-greens and "butts for bow-shooting and many of the company amused themselves with fine ale at number three."<sup>3</sup> A thrashing floor of a barn was sometimes made to do duty as a theatre, which, when it was full, was said to hold six pounds. Of bathing machines only a few were in use; a bell was rung when ladies were to bathe, and if during the time set apart for them a gentleman was seen on the parade he was fined a bottle of wine. The price for boarding at an hotel was 3s. 4d. per day.

The progress of Blackpool was now very rapid, and it soon became the most favourite watering-place in Lancashire. The

<sup>1</sup> Thornber's *Blackpool*, p. 199.

<sup>2</sup> Hutton's *Description of Blackpool*.

<sup>3</sup> For many years a well-known Inn.

town was incorporated in 1876, and has a population of 16,000. Its first mayor was William Henry Cocker, Esq.

#### PROTESTANTS.

Notwithstanding the large number of Roman Catholics in Bispham a large number of the inhabitants signed "The Protestation," as required by the order of the House of Commons in 1641, and thus undertook to maintain the Protestant religion.

"27 Feb. 164[1].<sup>1</sup> Bisphame Church, in the presence of Edward Veale, Esquire, one of [his] Majesties Justice of Peace, and the Churchwarden, Constables and Overseers of the Poore of that parish.

#### **Bisphame Magna—**

Richard Dobson.	John Butcher.
John Dobsonn.	Christopher Tynckler.
Richard Dagger.	Will'm Butcher.
Richard Hodgsonn.	Christopher Wade.
John Singleton.	Richard Wilcock.
Will'm Wild.	Rob'te Raw.
Edward Wild.	Henry Bickerstaffe.
Richard Wild.	Will'm Hall.
Rob'te Salthouse.	Thomas Anyon.
John Salthouse.	George Hull.
George Salthouse.	John Higginson.
Richard Butcher.	John Dagger.
Thomas Sanderson.	Thomas Threlfall.
Will'm Salthouse.	Richard Smithson.
Henry Salthouse.	Richard Greene.
John Gilchrist.	Will'm Greene.
Will'm Gilchrist.	Will'm Lithome.
Richard Fisher.	John Windress.
Thomas Whiteside.	George Windress.

<sup>1</sup> MS. in the library of the House of Lords. From a copy furnished by Mr. J. E. Bailey, F.S.A.



Henry Bickerstaffe.	George Singleton.
John Bickerstaffe.	John Singleton.
James Bickerstaffe.	John Currett.
Will'm Wild.	John Bamber.
James Sanderson.	Rob'te Bamber.
John Sanderson.	Thomas Bamber.
Nicholas Fare.	Will'm Bamber.
John Brodbelt.	Hugh Singleton.
Thomas Brodbelt.	George Singleton.
Will'm Fisher.	Will'm Singleton.
Thomas Dagger.	Geo. Lithome.
Rowland Bonney.	George Hull.
Edward Tynckler.	Cuthbert Cardwell.

**Bisphame P'ba—**

Raulph Darbishire.	Will'm Kerkhame.
Will'm Darbishire.	John Fisher.
Thos. Gaskell.	Henry Fisher.
Richard Tompson.	Will'm Bamber.
Will'm Rossall.	Will'm Hull.
Thomas Rossall.	John Shaw.
Rowland Anyon.	Thomas Shaw.
Richard Anyon.	Robte Anyon.
Richard Wade.	Richard Bickerstaffe.
Lawrence Pearson.	John Gyll.
Rob'te Galker.	Will'm Pearson.
John Anyon.	John Davie.
Richard Rossall.	Robte Fisher.
Fleetwood Anyon.	Christopher Reinson.
John Whiteside.	

Christopher Wilkinson,	} Church Wardens.
Henry Walsh,	
Peter Anyon,	
Will'm Fisher,	

## CIVIL WAR.

The parish of Bispham does not appear to have suffered much during the Civil War in Lancashire, beyond, on one occasion, the inhabitants being seriously alarmed in consequence of a large body of horse, commanded by Alexander Rigby of Laton, with Captains Singleton and Bamber, and other cavaliers, appearing "as if they intended some commotion," this was in February, 1642, about ten days after the taking of the town of Preston. The people of Bispham and Warbrick were so alarmed that they "took to themselves what weapons they had for defence," and were not a little relieved when the soldiers rode off towards the north.<sup>1</sup>

Except a little calico weaving by hand there is no manufacture in the parish, the inhabitants being either engaged in agriculture or in such pursuits as follow in the wake of a fashionable sea-side resort.

The population of the whole parish of Bispham in 1801 was 727, viz.: 254 Bispham with Norbreck, and 473 Layton with Warbreck; this in 1861 had increased to 4,344, of which 3,907 belonged to Layton-with-Warbrick. Bispham-with-Norbreck contains 2,624 statute acres, and Layton-with-Warbreck 3,241.

<sup>1</sup> *The Warr in Lancashire*, Chet. Soc., vol. lxiii. p. 25.



## CHAPTER II.

## ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

## THE PARISH CHURCH.

THE foundation charter of the Priory of Lancaster [see page 1] establishes the fact that Godfred, the Sheriff of Lancashire, in or about the year 1094, gave the tithes of Biscopham and all that he had there to that religious house, but it furnishes no evidence as to the existence of a church in Bispham at that time: as, however, the abbots of the monastery of St. Mary of Lancaster, St. Peter of Salop, and the bishop of St. David's in Wales were large early owners of the soil here, it is more than probable that a church or chapel was erected in Bispham in the 11th century.

In the reign of Richard I. [A.D. 1189-99] Theobald de Wlater held the advowson of Poulton church, and to terminate a dispute which he had with the abbot of St. Mary of Lancaster, he quit-claimed his right to both the church of Poulton and the church of Bispham to the monks of Sees (in Normandy) and St. Mary of Lancaster, a condition being that on the presentment of a parson by him he should pay ten marks to the prior of Lancaster.<sup>1</sup>

In 1246 a mediety of the church of Poulton and the chapel of Bispham was confirmed by John Romanus, archdeacon of York, to the monasteries of St. Martin of Sees and St. Mary of Lancaster, the other half was also assured to them on the death of the then incumbent, on whose death they were to appoint his

<sup>1</sup> Reg. St. Marie, Harl. 3764, fol. 77.

successor. [See *History of Poulton*.] From this it appears that at that time Bispham was a dependency of Poulton. The taxation of Pope Nicholas [*circa* A.D. 1291], makes no reference to the chapel of Bispham, but records the fact [see p. 2] that the abbot of Dieulacres held lands in "Biscopayne and Northrek." The church of Poulton and the chapel of Bispham in the early part of the next century were in so ruinous a condition that the vicar general of the archdeacon of Richmond addressed a letter, dated 23 August, 1345, to the rector of St. Michael on the Wyre and the rector of Preston, giving them authority to "canonically coerce the vicar of Poulton and the abbot of Lancaster to remake and repair the chancel of the church of Poulton and the chapel of Bispham annexed to the same," with as little delay as possible.<sup>1</sup> In 1351 the archdeacon of Richmond made a visitation to the archdeaconry in person, and no doubt satisfied himself that the repairs had been done, and he then called upon the religious men of St. Mary's to show by what right they held the church of Pulton and its chapel of Biscophem. This they did by the exhibition of "many instruments and muniments, and apostolic letters, and by witnesses worthy of credit."<sup>2</sup>

The chapel of Bispham no doubt passed with the mother church, and other possessions of the Lancaster priory, to the crown in the 2nd Henry II., and was afterwards given to the newly-founded monastery of Syon [see *History of Poulton*], and on the suppression of that religious house in 1539 it again reverted to the crown. Syon monastery was restored by Queen Mary, but only to be finally repressed by Queen Elizabeth.

The royal commissioners appointed to enquire into the state of the chantries, &c., in Lancashire, reported that there was "one lytell bell belonging to the chapel of Byspham" which weighed four score pounds, and which, on the testimony of William Tomanson and Robert Anyon, "churchereves of ye chapell of

<sup>1</sup> Aug. Office, Mis. Charters, vol. 18, No. 327. See *Hist. of Poulton* (appendix).

<sup>2</sup> Aug. Office, Anegil Char., § 8. See *Hist. of Poulton* (appendix).



Byspham," had been sold to James Massey, gentleman, for the sum of xxij<sup>s</sup> iiij<sup>d</sup>; the ornaments belonging to the chapel were worth iiij<sup>s</sup> vij<sup>d</sup>.<sup>1</sup>

In order that nothing belonging to the church should be lost, a commission was appointed by Edward VI. to take an inventory of all church goods, jewels, vestments, &c., and in accordance with this command an inquisition was held at Preston 18 November,<sup>2</sup> 1552, before Sir Richard Houghton, knight, George Brown, and Thomas Barton, Esq., when it appeared from the testimony of the "curate, churchwardens, and other honest men" that there belonged to "The parish church of Byspham—

One chalyce.

ij bells in the Steple.

ij Vestyments and ij albes, whereof one vestment is of black velvet with a red crosse and the other of dyvers colours.

One cope of pyed . . . ."

This was signed by

"S. Wyllm Corwyn, p'ych p'st.

Robt. Anyon,

Wyllm Fysshier,

John Walshe

Wyllm Tunson

} Churchwardens."

There are very few Bispham wills of the 16th century which have been preserved, but in these frequent allusion is made to the church. In 1530 George Allen of Rossall desires to be buried within the church of "All Hallows" [Bispham], and in 1559 John Hogeson desired to be buried in "the church of Byspam."

In 1560 Richard Anyon in making his will directs that his body should be buried in the "parish church yard of Bispham."

<sup>1</sup> *Lancashire Chantries*, Chet. Soc., vols. lix. and lx.

<sup>2</sup> *Inventory of Church Goods*, Record Office.

Letitia Daye bequeathed her body (in 1562) to be buried "in the parishe church yard of Byspham," and to the church of Byspham she left ijs, whilst she owed "in church *duttes* i<sup>s</sup>," and to Mr. Sherburn vi<sup>s</sup>.

To the will of Richard Cropper, vicar of Poulton [1557], is appended a list of debts due to him, amongst them is — "Item, Majister James Massy for the rent of Bispham chapel for 7 years at vi<sup>li</sup> vijs." The meaning of this is by no means clear.

John Anion' [1584], Richard Bamber [1587], and John Bamber [1596] all desire to be buried in the parish church of Bispham.

In the beginning of the next century, although Bispham was not included amongst the parishes which in 1619 paid "tenths,"<sup>1</sup> it appears to have in some measure at least attempted to shake off its allegiance to the mother church. In the Poulton registers about 1627 we find "the chapelry of Bispham" named, whilst in the marriage registers of Bispham in 1632 the usual formulary is "of this parish." The commissioners appointed to take the parochial surveys of the Church in Lancashire in 1650 reported that in the parish of Poulton is "one parochiall chappell onely, called Bispham, foure myles distant from Poulton; it hath formerly beene a parishe church conteyning two townships, viz.: Bispham-cum-Norbrecke and Laton-cum-Warbrecke, and consistinge of three hundred families; the inhabitants humbly desire they may be made a parish, and that competent maintenance may be allowed, the ministers there for the present having onely the Easter dues which are worth per annum five pounds or thereabouts." At the same time the inhabitants of Marton desire to be made a parish, and that "Laiton Rakes and Blackpoole being adjoining may be annexed to theirs;" for the tithes due to the vicar of Poulton was paid 4s. a year for the tithe hay in Warbreck, 18*d.* for the tithe hay of Oxendewe Meadow, and 3s. 6*d.* for the tithe hemp and flax in Layton cum Warbreck, and 13s. 4*d.* by Mr. Alexander Rigby for his such tithes in Layton,

<sup>1</sup> Bishop Bridgeman *MS.*



20s. for tithe hay in Warbreck, and 10*d.* for hemp and flax all by prescription.<sup>1</sup> The tithes of Layton were impropriate to Alexander Rigby, Esq., and were worth 22*s.* per annum; other parts of Bispham were impropriate to Sir Thos. Tildesley, a delinquent.<sup>1</sup>

In the beginning of the next century Bishop Gastrell<sup>2</sup> records that a parcel of ground had been given to this church by Mr. Fleetwood, which was worth £5 a year, and that the "Easter reckonings" were valued at £3 per annum more; and that Richard Fleetwood of Rossall Hall settled on the church in 1687 a rent charge of £10 a year. He also states that Bispham-cum-Norbreck and Layton-cum-Warbreck had four churchwardens, two chosen by the minister and two by the parishioners.

The £10 per annum was payable from lands in Rossall and Hackensall, and was assured to the "parish church of Bispham" by deed dated 16 April, 1687. It is a somewhat remarkable fact that the Patron Saint of this church was for many years unknown—by some the church was said to be dedicated to "The Holy Trinity," and by others to "All Saints," an inscription, however, on a silver communion cup, dated 1704 (see *post*), gives "All Hallows," which dedication is now confirmed and may be said to be settled beyond dispute by the will of George Allen of Roshall, dated 27th Nov. 1530,<sup>3</sup> [see Chapter V.] in which "All Hallows" is twice mentioned.

In 1725 this living was augmented by £200 from Queen Anne's Bounty, to meet a similar sum left by Edward Veale [see Chapter V.] of Whinneys Heys; in 1728 another £200 from the same source was granted to meet a similar donation from Mr. S. Walter.<sup>4</sup>

The Church, as it stood before the re-building about the year 1773, was a low building of sandstone, said to have come from Furness; it had a double gabled roof supported at the junction of

<sup>1</sup> Parliamentary Survey. Lambeth *MS.* (see Record Society, vol i.)

<sup>2</sup> *Not. Cest.*, Chet. Soc., vol. xii. p. 398.

<sup>3</sup> See *Hist. of Poulton*, p. 126.

<sup>4</sup> Baines' *Hist. of Lanc.*, vol. ii. p. 508.

the gables by a row of black oak crooks or pillars down the centre of the church.<sup>1</sup> The east window was composed of three long narrow lancet lights.<sup>2</sup> The pews were of old black oak, and some few years before its destruction there was a gallery at the west end. There was at this time also a tower, which was only in part pulled down with the church. It was this old building which was put to a singular use in October, 1702, when a ship which had sailed from Barbadoes, laden with sugar, cotton-wool, etc., had been taken captive by a French crew, and after the sailors had suffered much hardship, with difficulty escaped and made for the Isle of Man, but missing their course they ran the ship "under the red banks behind Rossall" and could not get off. The ship was ultimately beaten to pieces by the wind and waves, but the cargo of sugar was put into "Esquire Fleetwood's barne" and the cotton wool was carried into "Bispham Chapel," and afterwards sent to Manchester and sold for £200.<sup>3</sup> In the old belfry was kept a wooden frame, formed of four pieces, which is said to have been the old penance stool.

In 1773 the church was handed over to the "restorers," who unroofed and gutted it, and after destroying nearly every vestige of its old form erected in its place a plain body of a church without aisles or chancel; the tower and the ancient doorway were alone left. It is probable that at this time the original chancel was considerably curtailed or perhaps entirely destroyed. That such a chancel existed appears from the following memorandum from the registers of 1705:—

"Be it remembered that I, Henry Hodgson of Litell Laton, in the parish of Bispham, and county of Lancaster, yeoman, do hereby beg leave of Richard fleetewood of Rossall, Esq., patron of the parish church of Bispham aforesaid, for the interment of my wife in such convenient p<sup>te</sup> of Mr. fleetewood's owne chancell at Bispham church aforesaid, as the said Mr. fleetewood shall

<sup>1</sup> Thornber (*Hist. of Blackpool*, p. 321) states that "a row of semi-circular arches supported on three plain round pillars ran from the chancel to the font."

<sup>2</sup> Baines' *Hist. of Lanc.*, vol. ii. p. 508.

<sup>3</sup> *Autobiography of Mr. Stout*, p. 63.



direct or appoint, for which great favour and kindness I shall always be most gratefull. As witness my hand this 30 April, 1705.

HENRY HODGSON.

In the psence & witenesse of us : Jo. Westby, Alex. Pearson, Paul ffeetewood, Roger Bullen, Robert Brodbelt, clerk, Ralph Ashton, sexton, and others."

The entire fabric was again pulled down in 1883, and the present handsome church erected. In building the new church the old foundations were followed throughout, and an addition of one bay at the east end was made. The roof of the nave is of one span with open frame principals. The chancel window is a memorial of the youngest daughter of J. Dickson of Preston, Esq.; another coloured window in the nave is dedicated to the memory of Miss Simpson. The font was the gift of Mrs. Kemp of Fleetwood.

During the pulling down of the building the head of an early English three-light window was discovered in one of the walls, it now forms part of the church porch. For many years the ancient "stoup" was lying in the churchyard, this also has been preserved by being let into the tower wall and arched over.

The most interesting feature in Bispham church is its Norman arch, which, until the last restoration, had withstood the ravages of time and evidently remained where originally built. Whitaker considered it probably was as old as the time of Rufus. This arch formed the main entrance to the nave of the church, it was of the usual Norman type and consisted of a plain circular arch recessed within two superior arches, each arch supported by round pillars, with simple Norman capitals, the stone being red sandstone.

When the old church was pulled down and the new one built this arch was also taken down, the stones however were carefully marked and re-placed as near as practicable in their original position. When these stones were lying in the churchyard and some of the numberless coats of whitewash had been removed, it was discovered that the fourteen stones forming the inner circle

of the arch had all carvings on them. On more careful examination it was found that the two stones from which the arch sprang had each a chevron carved on them, and that the other twelve had still upon them distinct traces of the signs of the Zodiac; the Crab, the Bull, and the Virgin were still quite clear, the Scales and the Scorpion not quite so traceable; the rest were more or less defaced. It is a matter of regret to the antiquary at least, that these time-worn carvings were not allowed to tell their own tale, instead of which the tool of the modern sculptor cut out a new set of signs on the same stones, and replaced them in the old arch, which was rebuilt on its former site. Beautiful as the modern carving is as a work of art, we must still insist that "the old is better."

In the 11th and 12th century in France and Italy it was not uncommon to carve on the Norman doorways the signs of the Zodiac, or the labours of the twelve months. Thus for January, a man ploughing; February, pruning; March, digging; but this custom was much less common in England. On the archivolt of the great west door of the cathedral of St. Mark, Venice, are the signs of the Zodiac, and in the baptistry of the cathedral at Parma are detached stones which have originally represented similar signs.

The Norman doorways of St. Margaret's at York, and the parish church of Bakewell in Derbyshire, afford good examples of the custom in England.

Amongst the church plate is a silver cup, the date mark<sup>1</sup> of which appears to be 1609, (?) and which is inscribed:

"The gift of Ann, daughter to [sic] John Bamber, to y<sup>e</sup> church of All Hallows in Bispham. Delivered by John Corrit, 1704."

An old pewter flagon was sold some years ago, and a new one purchased. The bells have no inscription on them. The old oak muniment chest in the vestry has upon it in large letters—R.B. T.B. I.B. A.G. C.W. 12 (?).

<sup>1</sup> The marks are very indistinct, but appear to be "L," a "leopard," a "bunch of grapes," a "crown" and an "anchor."



MONUMENTS, &c.

On the north wall are three brasses relating to the Veale family they were originally on the east wall :

“ Here lyeth the Body  
of Susannah, wife  
to the late John  
Veale of Whinney Heys  
Esq., who departed this life  
the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, 1718.  
Aged 67.”

On this brass is a shield bearing the family arms (“argent or a bend sable, three calves passant, or”) impaled with the “lion passant” of the Rushtons of Antley.

---

“ Here lieth the body of  
Dorothy Veale Esq., late  
of Whinney Heys, who departed this  
life the 9<sup>th</sup> day of January,  
in the year of our Lord 1747,  
and in the 77<sup>th</sup> year of her age.”

---

“ Here lieth the body of John  
Veale, late of Whinney Heys, Esq.,  
who dyed the 20<sup>th</sup> January,  
1704, aged sixty.  
Hear [*sic*] lyes the body of  
Edward Veale Esq., late of  
Whinney Heys. Who departed  
this life the 11<sup>th</sup> day of Aug.,  
1723, and aged 43 years.  
Given by Dorothy Veale.”

Both these brasses have the family arms on them.

In the west end of the church are the following on flat stones :

“ In the hope of a blessed resurrection  
here resteth the remains of  
Catherine wife of Thomas Foden  
of Layton, who died 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1761,  
aged 60. Also four of his children,  
to wit. Hugh, Hannah, and two called  
Thomas. Also Thomas Foden of Layton,  
who departed this life 4 Sep., 1777. In the  
81. year of his age. Mary Foden interred  
17 June 1819, aged 81.”

---

“ In memory of William Seward of Layton  
Hall, who died 13 June, 1761. Also of Catherine,  
his wife, who died 4 Jan., 1785, aged 52 years.  
Also of William, son of Thomas and Margaret Seward,  
who died 28 Nov., 1790, aged 3 years. Also Catherine their  
daughter, who died 13 Mar., 1797, aged 7 years. Also of  
Thomas Seward, their Father, who died 26 Sep., 1804,  
aged 47 years.”

---

In the south aisle is a memorial of one of the curates of  
Bispham:

“ M. S.  
Ashton Worden, LL.B.  
hujus Ecclesiæ Minister. obiit  
secundo die Marchii M.D.  
CCLXVII. Ætatis suæ L.  
Hanc tabulam pietatis et amoris  
ergo vidua merans posuit.”



THE CHURCHYARD

Contains very few old gravestones. In the north-west end is a stone on which the inscription is curiously divided :

“ Here lye  
the B  
ody of Jo  
hn Hvll  
the son of Mathe  
w Hvll of  
lyttle Bisph . . .  
1709.”

---

There are several tombs of the Bambers, but the oldest inscription relating to that family is on a stone in the west end of the yard :

“ Here lyeth the body of William Bamber of Little  
Bispham, who dyed April y<sup>e</sup> 23, Anno Do<sup>m</sup>i 1713.  
Ætatis suæ 50.”

---

Against the south wall is a small stone :

“ Heare lyeth  
the Body  
of Henary Wa  
llsh of Black  
pool who d  
ied the 24  
of July  
1712.”

---

In the south end, on a flat stone :

“ My parents dear lie buried here  
Tis true what I do say

*The History of Bispham.*

In love they lived in peace they died  
There life was asked but was denied."

"Ellen Bamber, buried 25<sup>th</sup> Sep., 1727."

"Jonathan, her husband, buried 1<sup>st</sup> Aug., 1732."

"My dearest friend pray do not grieve  
I had scarce time to take my leave  
Before my blessed Saviour hee  
From this low world  
Had summonsed mee.

That I should come to him and show  
My talents whether improved or no,  
And if improved he has in store  
A crown that lasts for evermore."

"Benjamin Bamber, their son,  
buried 31 May, 1766, aged 56 . . . ."

"John Bamber, *alias* Bowman of Norbreck,  
buried 20 Oct., 1769, aged 71."

In the churchyard is the pedestal of an ancient stone cross which is now used as a sun dial, the base is of red sandstone; on the brass plate is engraved "John Hull, 1704, Die dies truditur," who was evidently the donor of the dial; his initials "I. H." appear on one side of the cross pedestal, on another is "R. B." John Hull died 1709. [See p. 33.]

In a garden on the south side of the churchyard is a spring of water still known as "The Holy Well."

#### ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, BLACKPOOL.

This church was built in 1820-21 and was originally a chapel of ease to Bispham, but in 1860 a district was assigned to it, and it became the parish church of Blackpool; since then it has been several times enlarged. It was rebuilt and enlarged in 1877. The east window bears the following inscription: "In memoriam



Henrii Banks de Blackpool patris et unius ex hujus Ædis. patronis, tres sui liberi hanc finestram fieri fecerunt."

A mural tablet records the death of several of the Banks' family, amongst them "The Rev Thomas Banks, who was for thirty-five years Incumbent of this church, and was an eminent instructor of youth;" he died in October, 1843, aged 73 years. An old font which was formerly in Singleton Catholic Chapel is at this church — though not used as a font; it is made of wood, and was originally round, but a portion of it has been cut away to admit of its being placed against a wall.

#### CURATES AND VICAR.

##### INSTITUTED.

1821	- -	James Formby, M.A.
1826	- -	G. L. Foxton, B.A.
1829	- -	William Thornber, B.A. <sup>1</sup>
1846	- -	W. T. Preedy, B.A.
1853	- -	Alfred Jenour, M.A.
1869	- -	Norman S. Jeffreys, M.A., the present Vicar.

#### CHRIST CHURCH, BLACKPOOL.

This church was erected in 1868. The present vicar is the Rev. C. H. Wainwright.

#### HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, SOUTHSORE.

This church was consecrated in 1837, and was built at the expense of Col. J. Talbot Clifton of Lytham.

#### PERPETUAL CURATES AND VICARS.

G. A. Greene, M.A.	- - - -	1837-1841.
John Edwards	- - - -	- 1841-1845.
C. K. Dean	- - - -	1845-1848.
T. B. Banner, M.A.	- - - -	- 1848-1853.
J. B. Wakefield	- - - -	1853-1870.
J. Ford Simmons, M.A.	- - - -	- 1870-1881.
Sandys Y. B. Bradshaw (the present vicar)		1881.

<sup>1</sup> The Author of the *History of Blackpool*.

## THE INDEPENDENT CHAPEL

In Blackpool was built in 1825; the Wesleyan Chapel in 1825, and was replaced by the present building in 1849; the Roman Catholic Church, erected by Pugin at the cost of Miss M. Tempest (sister of Sir Charles Tempest of Broughton Hall, Yorkshire), was consecrated in 1857.



## CHAPTER III.

## THE CURATES OF BISPHAM.

1530-1539	- - - - -	Sir William Sylkok.
1552	- - - - -	Sir William Corwyn.
1559	- - - - -	Jerome Allen (?)
1618 or earlier to 16—	- - - - -	Robert Brodbelt.
1634 or earlier to 1644	- - - - -	Robert Freckleton.
1648-9-1650	- - - - -	John Fisher.
1651	- - - - -	John Hartley.
1671 or earlier	- - - - -	Robert Wayte.
1690	- - - - -	Thomas Riley.
22 July, 1692	- - - - -	Thomas Sollom.
30 March, 1693	- - - - -	Jonathan Hayton.
1728-1753	- - - - -	Christopher Albin.
18 September, 1753	- - - - -	Roger Freckleton, M.A.
22 September, 1760	- - - - -	Ashton Werden, LL.B.
21 May, 1767	- - - - -	John Armetriding, B.A.
4 March, 1791	- - - - -	William Elston, B.A.
August, 1831	- - - - -	Charles Hesketh, M.A.
1837	- - - - -	Bennett Williams, B.A.
1850	- - - - -	Henry Powell, M.A.
1857	- - - - -	W. A. Mocatta, M.A.
1861	- - - - -	James Leighton.
1874	- - - - -	C. S. Hope, M.A.
1876	- - - - -	F. J. Dickson.
1885	- - - - -	G. Leighton.

## THE CURATES AND VICARS OF BISPHAM.

The very meagre list of the curates of Bispham previous to the Reformation is in a measure accounted for by the fact that

at that time the church was a dependent on the mother church of Poulton, and the curates were nominated by the vicar. The few records of the archdeaconry of Richmond which have been preserved give no information whatever on the subject, and the Bishop's register at Chester furnishes nothing until 1690.

SIR WILLIAM SYLKOK, 1530-39.

He was here in 1530, as on 27 March in that year George Allen of Rossall in his will desired to be buried "within the church of All Hallows near to the body of his father," and bequeathed to "Sir William Sylkok of Allhallows xii<sup>d</sup>," he also leaves "to the church of Allhallows xx<sup>s</sup>." Endorsed on a lease, dated 20 Jan., Hen. VIII. [1539], whereby William Carleton of Little Carleton let the manor of Carleton for 12 years to Sir John Port, knight, Judge of the Common Pleas, is a list of debts owing by lessor, and amongst them is "Sr William Silkok xiijs iiij<sup>d</sup>;"<sup>1</sup> doubtless he was still curate of Bispham. In 1602 (10th June) Robert Silcocke of Hardhorn in Poulton made his will; he desired to be buried "in the church of Pulton." His goods, worth £44 8s. 5d., he left to his sons James, William, and Richard Silcocke.<sup>2</sup>

SIR WILLIAM CORWYN, 1552.

His name is attached to the Inventory of Church Goods taken in 1552 (see page 25), he is described as parish priest.

JEROME ALLEN (?), 1559.

Thornber<sup>3</sup> is responsible for a tradition, which has been followed by Baines and others, but which appears to be perfectly without foundation; it is to the effect that "the last time that the catholic worship was performed in Bispham church was in March, 1559, when its priest, Jeromine Allen (a Benedictine), called together his flock and celebrated high mass at 9 o'clock on the 25th of

<sup>1</sup> Deed in possession of J. Weld, Esq.

<sup>2</sup> Richmond Wills.

<sup>3</sup> *Hist. of Blackpool*, p. 53.



that month. Suffused with tears this holy and good man admonished his people to obey the present queen [Elizabeth], and begged of them above all things to love God supremely and their neighbours as themselves; after which he gave them the benediction of the holy sacrament. From that time he was heard of no more, though it was reported that he repaired to Lampspring in Germany, where he spent the remainder of his life in penitence and prayer."

Thornber's *Blackpool* was published in 1837, and the first edition of Baines' *Lancashire* in 1836. The latter, professing to quote from Rishton's *Diary*, says, "Jerome Allen, the last catholic pastor of Bispham, quitted the cure in 1559." The editor of the last edition of the *History of Lancashire* mentions the last sermon and the retiring to Lampspring, giving as his authority Rishton's *Diary* in the Chetham Library.<sup>1</sup>

The fact is that there is no "Rishton's *Diary*" in the Chetham Library except what is contained in an edition of Nicholas Sander's "De origine et progressu Schismatis anglicani," which was edited by Edward Rishton<sup>2</sup> in 1585, and this does not contain the slightest mention of either Jerome Allen or the church of Bispham. There is a passage in the *Diary* which may have formed the basis of Thornber's flight of imagination.

The substance of this passage is to the following effect: "The Act of Uniformity, 1 Eliz., c. 2, ordered the ancient service to cease on or before the feast of St. John the Baptist, 1559. Every one who said Mass, or heard it; every one who procured the celebration of the divine office in the ancient way, and those who administered any sacrament according to the old rite, were to be heavily fined. The first offence against that law was to be visited by a fine of one hundred marks, and imprisonment for six months

<sup>1</sup> Communicated to him by Mr. Thornber.

<sup>2</sup> Rishton was a missionary priest said to have been born at Great Eccleston in Lancashire; he was for some time imprisoned in the Tower of London, and whilst there kept a diary in which he recorded the tortures to which catholics within its walls were put by the ministers of Queen Elizabeth.

in default of payment. For the second conviction the fine was to be four hundred marks, or one year's imprisonment; and for the third offence the penalty was imprisonment for life, and the forfeiture of all goods and chattels.

"The result of this Act was that on the day fixed the public celebration of Mass ceased throughout the whole realm. But the bishops, with one exception, refused to assent to this arbitrary change of religion, and hundreds of priests throughout the kingdom followed their example.

"The bishops were soon after deprived of their dignities, and committed either to prison or to the custody of certain persons. Those priests who did not conform were likewise deprived, and many of them were imprisoned."

The "Benedictine priest retiring to Lampspring" must have been pure invention, as the religious house there was not established until 1643. In the time of Elizabeth there was a Jeremy Allen living in the south of England, but he could not have been the priest of Bispham. There was also a William Allen (said to be cousin to Cardinal Allen) who, according to Fox, was confined a prisoner in the Marshalsea in 1579, he then being about seventy years old.

For nearly half a century after this we do not find even the tradition of a curate of Bispham, yet it is clear from the contents of the few 16th century wills preserved that the church was not closed, at all events, for any length of time.

ROBERT BRODBELT, 1618 (or earlier.)<sup>1</sup>

That Robert Brodbelt was a "clerk," and that he lived in Bispham for a period of upwards of fifty-six years is abundantly proved, as is also the fact that he was curate and minister of the church there, but it is clear that he did not hold the cure for that long period.

By indenture dated 10th March, 15 James (1618), Laurence Bailie of Skippoole in Poulton, carpenter, granted for ever to

<sup>1</sup> Piccope's *MSS.* gives December, 1614, but affords no proof.



Robert Brodbelt "of Bispham, clerke" a house and yard situate in Great Bispham, adjoining upon the east side the house of Richard Bamber, and on the west a parcel of land "lately taken from the waste called the Leame pitte, on the south by the highway or Town lane, with common right, &c., on Layton Hause, proportional to a house of 2s. 8*d.* yearly rent."<sup>1</sup>

On 18 August in the year following Laurence Bailie conveyed to Robert Brodbelt a messuage and five acres of land in Bispham, and on 8 September "John Higginson, attorney, took possession and afterwards quiet and peaceable possession and seising did deliver to Robert Brodbelt, by giving unto him a piece of earth cut up in the said closure in the presence of Richard Bamber, William Anyon, James ffisher, George Windress, and John Brodbelt."<sup>2</sup>

In 1622, by deed dated 26 July, "Robert Brodbelt of Bispham, clarke," had conveyed to him by John Hulton of Darley, co. Lanc., gent., a cottage, garden and appurtenance, called the Jew's house, with a closure called Savocke or Pepper's croft, with common of pasture at all times of the year for cattle, "comonable and for so many ratably and proportionable as for or upon any one twelve penny howse w<sup>in</sup> the Lordship of Laton," also a meadow known as Cawdale meadow, late belonging to Thomas Whinroe, late of Bispham, deceased; in a bond attached to this deed the purchaser is described as "Robertus Brodbelt de Bispham clericus."<sup>3</sup>

By Indenture bearing date 4 March, 3 Charles [1628], Richard ffisher of the Bank, in the township of Bispham, husbandman, sold in fee to Robert Brodbelt of Bispham, clerk, a certain portion of meadow ground, called Carr Hey, extending from "the great watercourse with the moiety of the s<sup>d</sup> watercourse containing 5 falles of land in Bispham."<sup>4</sup> In 1632 (2 March) Nicholas ffaire of Great Bispham, husbandman, for a consideration of £20 granted for ever to this land-acquiring clerk, a close called

<sup>1</sup> Deeds in possession of Mr. W. Asburne, Manchester.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

"Cawdoe" in Great Bispham containing one acre, and having upon it "a barn or out-house," and late the inheritance of Richard ffaire, late father of the said Nicholas ffaire. This deed is witnessed by John Brodbelt and Thomas Brodbelt.

To contributions from the clergy of the diocese of Chester in 1622 (towards the recovery of the Palatinate) "Mr. Brodbelt, curate of Bispham," subscribed 6s. 8d.<sup>1</sup> In 1639 the clergy were called upon to contribute in aid of the war against the Scotch — when Robert Brodbelt appears as "curate of Lithom." As no name appears for Bispham, and as there certainly was then a curate there, this is probably a mistake, or it may be that one curate served the two churches.

"Ye Cawdle Yard or Litham's Yard and Ould Carr Hey" in Bispham were conveyed by William Lithom of Bispham, school-master, 9 June, 1655, to Robert Brodbelt, who is described as in the earlier deeds.

In 1670 (17 February) Robert Brodbelt, the elder, clerk, in consideration of the natural love and affection which he bore to Robert Brodbelt the younger, his grandson, and "natural son" of John Brodbelt of Bispham, deceased, and for the preferment of his other grand-children, granted all his real estate to Richard Smithson of Hayholm and John Bonney of Warbrecke, yeomen, in trust that after his death the same should go to Robert Brodbelt the younger for ever, provided that he should give satisfactory security to the trustees for the payment of £35 in such manner as shall be directed by the will of his grandfather. The signature to this deed is very shaky, and is evidently the writing of a very old man; he did not however die for some four years after this, when the Registers record "1674, Dec., Mr. Robert Brodbelt, minister of Bispham, was buried the 11<sup>th</sup>."

Although described here as minister he must have long before given up the actual performance of the duties of the office, even if he had not resigned the Cure — as others were described as

<sup>1</sup> Lanc. and Cheshire Record Soc., vol. xii. p. 69.



"Ministers of Bispham," whilst he is simply designated "clerk."

His will, dated 26 December, 1671, was proved at Richmond, 17 December, 1674, the following is the substance of it :—

EXTRACT FROM WILL OF ROBERT BRODBELT.

"In the name of God, &c. I Robert Brodbelt of Bispham, the eldest, in the county of Lancaster, clarke, thro' old and infirm in body yet sound and perfect in membery [memory] &c. My body to bee buried in the parish church of Bispham, soe neare my late wife and children as can be with convenience. Whereas I already by deed of ffeoffment suficiently executed, date 17 Feb., 23 Chas. II., 1671, passed over all my lands in Bispham unto Richard Smithson and John Boney (trustees) for such uses therein appointed, and have in the said deed reserved to my owne power £35. I give the said sum as followeth: £10 to John Brodbelt my grandchild, sonne of John Brodbelt my late son deceased. £10 to Ann Brodbelt and Ellen Brodbelt (natural sisters unto said John Brodbelt my grandchild). £7 10s. I give to Sarah and Jane Brodbelt, daughters of William Brodbelt my son, equally betwixt them. £7 10s. to Margaret Benson my natural daughter. I give a tenement and 6 acres, commonly called sitches tenement to William Brodbelt my grandchild, son of William Brodbelt my natural son. Out of my personal estate I give £30 to John Benson, my son in law. £10 to Margaret Smithson my grandchild. £15 betwixt Sarah, Mary, and Alexander Smithson my grandchildren. To Jane Brodbelt £10 (besides her former legacy) to be paid when she is of age. I give to Robert Brodbelt, son of William Brodbelt my son £10. A tenement and 5 acres called Haybers to Richard Smithson my son in law. To my grandchildren Anne and Ellyn (besides the other legacies) £10. To John Boney of Warbreck 40s. Remainder to Richard Smithson my said son in law, whom I appoint sole executor.

"In witness whereof, &c., this 26 Dec. 1671, I have set my hand and seal."

To this will is attached the following Inventory:

"A true and perfect Inventory of all the goods, chatells, &c., of Robert Brodbelt, late of Great Bispham, clerke, deceased, praised 15 Dec., 1674, by these four honest men, John Bonney, John Whiteside, John Hull and John Butcher, as followeth :

	£	s.	d.
Impr <sup>d</sup> the decedents apparel	6	13	4
Itm. in coyne & plate	70	10	0
" ffoure cowes	14	0	0
" ffoure heifers one oxe & one calfe	13	10	0
" three horses & one mare	4	0	0
" twentie nyne sheepe	4	16	8
" oates	18	0	0
" barley	16	0	0
" hay	4	10	0
" carte wheels & other husbandry garr	4	10	0
" peages [pigs]	1	4	0
" two swine	2	0	0
" turves & coales	0	18	0
" goods in loft	5	10	0
" all goods in the parlor	3	16	4
" oates in the milne	3	0	0
" goods in buttrie	1	13	0
" " in the chamber above	1	19	0
" " in the house	1	16	6
" one bedstead	0	7	0
" sacks	0	10	0
" one bond	4	0	0
" " other bond	1	10	0
" oweing by Henry Bamber	5	0	0
" " by Ralph Capper	3	0	0
" " by John Benson	5	0	0
" " by James Smithson	6	0	0
" " by William Salthouse	1	8	10
" in his library in all	7	2	6

---

£212 5 2"



Robert Brodbelt at the time of his death could not be less than 86 years old (and was probably over 90)—his wife and many of his children had died before him, and were buried in Bispham church. His known issue was—

(1) John Brodbelt who witnessed in 1623 and 1630 the execution of two legal transactions to which his father was a party; he died before December, 1671, and had issue, John, who was living in 1671, and a "natural son," Robert, of whom hereafter.

(2) William Brodbelt<sup>1</sup> who was living in 1671, and had issue, William and Robert and two daughters, Sarah and Jane, who were living in 1670-1. William Brodbelt, the younger, inherited from his grandfather a tenement and six acres of land called "Sitches" (see p. 43).

(3) Thomas Brodbelt of Great Bispham, husbandman, whose will, dated 11 February, 1670-1, was proved at Richmond in 1674, and by which he bequeathed his goods and possessions to the children of his brother-in-law Richard Smithson, the children of his brother William Brodbelt, and to Robert and Jane Brodbelt, the son and daughter of his brother John, deceased, with remainder to John Williams, his sister's son.

(4) Ellen, buried at Bispham, 4 March, 1636.

(5) A daughter who married Richard Smithson of Hayholme in Carleton, yeoman, and had issue, Alexander (see p. 43), Sarah and Mary.

(6) Margaret (described in her father's will as natural daughter), who married John Benson of Bispham, 28 October, 1635.

(7) Ann (described as "natural daughter") living in 1671.

(8) Ellen (described as "natural daughter") alive in 1671.

Robert Brodbelt, "the natural son" of John Brodbelt of Bispham, appears to have been his grandfather's heir; the deed referred to in the curate of Bispham's will (see p. 43) recites that Robert Brodbelt, the elder, clerk, in consideration of "the natural

<sup>1</sup> In his father's will he is called "my son" and subsequently "my natural son."

love and affection" that he bore to "Robert Brodbelt the younger, his grandson, and natural son unto John Brodbelt, late of Bispham, dec<sup>d</sup>, and for the preferment of his grandchildren" he had granted all his lands in Bispham to Richard Smithson of Hayholm and John Bonney of Warbrecke, yeomen, to the following uses, viz. : to the use of him the said Robert Brodbelt the elder for his life, and after his decease, then to Robert Brodbelt the younger and his heirs for ever, provided that he should give security for the payment of £35 to such person as the elder Robert should appoint by his last will and testament.

It appears that the requisite security was found by Robert the younger, and he entered into possession : from (or probably before) 1678 to the time of his death he held the post of parish clerk of Bispham ;<sup>1</sup> he was buried at Bispham, 17 Sep., 1715. His will, dated 5 Sep., 1715, was proved at Richmond on 25 April following, of which the following is an abstract :

"I, Robert Brodbelt of Bispham, yeoman. My body to be buried in the churchyard of Bispham, near the place where my daughter Elizabeth lies buried. For preservation of peace and unity among my wife and children after my decease I give to my grandson Robert Brodbelt 10s., to the three daughters of my daughter Mary 5s. a piece. To my son John Bamber two-third portions of my leasehold land in Bispham, the other third part to my wife Elizabeth for her life, remainder to my son John Brodbelt. To my son William Brodbelt I give the close of land called Roes Garden. I appoint that all my lands shall be charged with payment of £60 to my daughters Mary, Sarah, and Margaret Brodbelt. I will that my wife shall quietly have and enjoy the moiety of my now house in Bispham, and all rooms and chambers, so far as two bays of building do extend for her life. I give to Sarah and Margaret my daughters all that part of my said dwelling house called the Kitchen with the appurtenance and garden called the Lower Garden, until such

<sup>1</sup> Registers of the parish.



time as they shall be married. I appoint Elizabeth my wife, John Brodbelt my son, and my loving kinsman Alexander Smithson, executors of this my will, &c."

He appears to have been twice married, his first wife Mary dying in June, 1688—he was then living at Tidaker in Great Bispham. He had issue :

(1) John Brodbelt, baptized at Bispham, 24 April, 1674. He married (by license) at Bispham, 6 October, 1715, Mary Anyon of Norbreck; he was buried at Bispham, 13 March, 1734, and his will was proved at Richmond 31 May, 1736; his widow died in April, 1745, they had issue : Robert, of whom hereafter. Elizabeth, married Thomas Windress of Stalmine. Margaret, married Henry Robinson of Stainall, and Agnes, who married Edward Tinckler.

(2) Robert, baptized at Bispham, 23 Jan., 1680-1. He married at Bispham Elizabeth Fisher, 5 May, 1705; he was buried at Bispham, 24 June, 1707; in his will (dated 20 June, 1707) he is described as "husbandman;" he had issue a son William, born 18 Oct. 1705.<sup>1</sup>

(3) Edward, baptized 29 Aug., 1689; died in infancy.

(4) William, baptized 29 Jan., 1690-91; he is believed to be (but the positive evidence is wanting) the William who was married at Poulton, 20 Aug., 1713, to Isabel the daughter of Thomas Thornewton of Norcross; he was buried at Bispham, 27 Aug., 1728; his widow survived him many years, being upwards of eighty when she died. He had issue : Robert, born 1714. Thomas, of whom hereafter. Hannah, born 24 Nov., 1717. Elizabeth, born 10 Dec., 1720. Mary, born 19 May, 1724; died in infancy.

(5) Margaret, born 1678; died in infancy.<sup>2</sup>

(6) Mary, baptized 4 February, 1681; married John Hull in 1708.

<sup>1</sup> Probably the William Brodbelt, a joiner, who married "Phanny Hall," 13 Feb., 1730-1, at Bispham.

<sup>2</sup> "Buried in Woollen, 22 November. Affidavit made before Esquire Rigbie."

(7) Sarah, baptized 28 January, 1684 ; married — Williams.

(8) Elizabeth, baptized 9 July, 1686 ; died 1705, unmarried.

(9) Margaret, baptized 30 August, 1693.

Robert, the son and heir of John Brodbelt, sold his Bispham property in 1757 and 1759. His wife's name was Margarèt, and it is probable that the following inscription on a tombstone in Bispham churchyard refers to him : "In memory of Robert Brodbelt, who died May 20<sup>th</sup>, 1796, aged 71 ; Margaret, his wife, died January 31<sup>st</sup>, 1810, aged 81 ; also of Richard Brodbelt, their son, who died 26<sup>th</sup> October, 1822, aged 71 ; also Margaret, wife of the said Richard Brodbelt, who died 6<sup>th</sup> February, 1830, aged 73 years." The social position of one branch of the family appears to have been considerably reduced towards the end of the 18th century.<sup>1</sup>

Thomas Brodbelt, the second son of William Brodbelt, was baptized at Bispham 26 June, 1726, and was married there 26 Dec., 1749, to Agnes Warbreck. He died 18 June, 1777 ; his widow died 22 July, 1800. He had seven sons and four daughters,<sup>2</sup> of these Thomas (the sixth son) was baptized at Bispham, 10 April, 1766 ; he was a surgeon on board a ship, and died on his passage out to South Africa ; his widow married the Rev. Robert Parkinson, vicar of Longridge. He had issue two sons, Thomas, who married Elizabeth Green of Bolton-le-Moors, and had issue two daughters,<sup>3</sup> and William Brodbelt of Preston, cotton manufacturer, who married in 1810, Alice, sister to Moses Holden (the astronomer) of Preston. He died in 1846 at Preston and left issue : (1) John, of whom presently ; (2) Thomas, died in infancy ; (3) Elizabeth, died unmarried, 10 March, 1880, aged 65 years ; (4) Sarah, died unmarried, 18 Nov., 1846, aged 29 years ; (5) Agnes, still living.

<sup>1</sup> The Registers mention a shoemaker, a joiner, and a ship-carpenter of this name.

<sup>2</sup> William, born 1751, died 1824, buried at Poulton ; Robert, born 1754, died 1820 ; John, born 1759, died 1793 ; James (twin brother to John) died in infancy ; Edward, died in infancy ; Thomas ; Edward, born 1771, died in Africa, 1794 ; Sarah, born 1757 ; Hannah, born, 1762 ; Betty, born 1769 ; Isabel, born 1774, died 1822.

<sup>3</sup> Elizabeth married the Rev. Thomas Berry, vicar of St. Werburgh's, Derby. Sarah married Dr. Barden of Bolton-le-Moors.



John, the eldest son of William Brodbelt, was born at Preston, 25 Nov., 1811. He married in 1837, Mary, the daughter of William Nightingale of the Higher Ealy, near Chorley. John Brodbelt was educated for the cotton trade, but finding it uncongenial to his taste he obtained the appointment of head master to St. Thomas's National School, Preston, but after his wife's death in 1841 he entered St. Bees College, and in 1845 he was ordained, and appointed to the curacy of Slaidburn in Yorkshire, and to the mastership of the Grammar School there; he was afterwards incumbent of Dale Head, near Slaidburn, and in 1857 he was presented to the vicarage of Bentham in Yorkshire, where he died the following year. He had issue: William Brodbelt, now living at Arkholme, near Carnforth,<sup>1</sup> and Margaret Alice.

ROBERT FRECKLETON, 1634 (or earlier)—1644.

Robert Freckleton was probably one of the family of Freckleton of Freckleton in Kirkham. The exact time when he came to officiate at Bispham has not been ascertained, but the Poulton Registers show that on the 20 November, 1634 he was married to Sarah, one of the daughters of the Rev. Peter White, vicar of Poulton, and he is described as "Minister of Bispham." Three of his children were baptized at Poulton, Thomas, 20 March, 1634-35; Peter, 10 September, 1636; and Jane in December, 1637: in each case he is called "Minister of Bispham." In 1644-5 his father-in-law resigned the vicarage of Poulton in his favour, and he was duly instituted on the 16 January in that year, but he held the living a very short time, as in February, 1645-6, he was living at Chester, and during the siege of that city by the Parliamentary forces his goods were sequestrated for delinquency by the committee of sequestration.<sup>2</sup> Shortly after this he was appointed *pro tempore*, by one of the lord lieutenants, rector of Backford in Cheshire, and appears to have conformed to the puritan spirit of

<sup>1</sup> To whom I am indebted for particulars of the later generations of his family.

<sup>2</sup> *Church Surveys*, Record Soc., vol. i. p. 218.

the times, as in 1646 he had the profits of the rectory conferred on him, with an additional £50 from the committee of plundered ministers. In 1648 he signed the "Attestation of Ministers" and described himself "Minister of Backford."

#### JOHN FISHER, 1649.

The name appears as "Pastor of Bispham" amongst the signatures of "the paper called the agreement of the people," he was therefore here in 1648-9; in June, 1650 he was "minister for the time being" of Shire Side chapel in the parish of Cokerham,<sup>1</sup> where he had "no certain maintenance." At this time the minister of Bispham had only the Easter dues, which were said to be worth about £5 a year.<sup>2</sup>

John Fisher was appointed vicar of Kirkham in February, 1650-61,<sup>3</sup> which living he held until his death, 17 March, 1666. Calamy states that he was one of those who "conformed."<sup>4</sup> He left a widow, who was buried at Kirkham, 15 November, 1705. He had issue, Edward, baptized at Kirkham, 9 December, 1651; Mary, baptized on the 25 August, 1653; James, who became vicar of Mentmore, Bucks.; Joseph and Benjamin, twins, born in 1657; Charles, born 1660; Thomas, born 1664-5; and a daughter, Fleetwood, born 29 September, 1662. John Fisher's wife was Mary, the daughter of the Rev. Edward Fleetwood, vicar of Kirkham (see *History of Kirkham*).

#### JOHN HARTLEY, 1651.

Thornber in his *History of Blackpool* gives this name as Cavelay, which is copied in the last edition of Baines'—there is, however, no doubt but that Hartley is correct. The name occurs in the register in the beginning of 1651 (see *post*), when the signature "John Hartley, Minister of Bispham Parish" is clear enough—the

<sup>1</sup> *Lanc. Church Surveys*, Lanc. and Cheshire Record Soc., vol. i. p. 129.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Minutes of Plundered Ministers.

<sup>4</sup> *Nonconformists' Memorials*, vol. ii. p. 111.



"H" of the surname is in the character of writing common at that time, and to one unaccustomed to read *MSS.* of the period it might be mistaken for a "C". It is a singular circumstance that John Hartley on 27 Jan., 1652-3, took his daughter to Elswick chapel and there baptized her, and having done so he duly recorded in the Bispham Register of Baptisms "Mary, the daughter of John Hartley, minister of this parish, born Jan. 20, was baptized by himself at Elswick chapell [where there was no Register] before these witnesses . . . . . [names illegible] and Anne Swarbrick."

ROBERT WAYTE 1671 (or earlier)—1689.

Little is known of this curate except what is found in the parish registers. Whilst at Bispham several of his children were baptized and buried, viz.: Alice, baptized 24 April, 1671; Laurence, baptized 10 April, 1678; Robert, baptized 15 April, 1683, and buried the following 1 August; Thomas, baptized 20 Dec., 1685; Elizabeth, baptized 20 Oct., 1687. He was twice married, his first wife (Margaret) being buried at Bispham, 2 Dec., 1681; he made his will on the 4 June, 1689, and two days afterwards he was buried at Bispham. His will reads as follows:

"In the name of God, &c. 4 June, 1689. I Robert Waite of Bispham in the county of Lancaster, clerke, being weak in body, &c. First it is my will that my children shall have the third of my clear goods chattells and personal Estate, which is their due by the custom of the Province of York, the same to be in the hands of my Executor until they are 21 years of age. Grace my wife to have the remainder. Henry Welsh of Blackpool, yeoman, to be my executor.

INVENTORY.

Two kine and a little heffer	05	05	00
One horse or gelding	02	00	00
One little swine and one pig	00	13	04
Some goods in the barne	00	13	08

One swarm of Bees	00	06	08
Turfe	00	02	00
All the goods in the chamber below	02	14	00
All the goods in the kitchen	01	07	06
Meale, malte & other goods in the loft	04	03	04
All the goods in the chamber above	02	04	00
All the goods in the buttery	02	05	06
All the goods in the house	03	12	04
Beefe and Bacon	00	11	06
Books	01	10	06
His apparel	05	00	00
	<hr/>		
Total	32	09	04
	<hr/>		

#### THOMAS RILEY, 1690—1692.

On 16 June, 1690, Thomas Riley was instituted "curate" of Bispham.<sup>1</sup> Before 1687 he was nominated by the vicar of Kirkham to the curacy of Lund chapel, but for some reason was never licensed.<sup>2</sup> It appears probable that he was one of the Riley family of Kirkham and Poulton. There was at this time living in Poulton a John Riley who had several sons, one of whom was Hesketh Riley, baptized at Poulton, 1718, and whose mother, tradition says, was one of the Heskeths of Mains. In 1658 a James Ryley of Clifton was elected governor of the Kirkham Grammar School.<sup>3</sup> The Bispham registers only contain one reference to him; on 4 March, 1690-1, Margaret his daughter is baptized. He was buried at Poulton, on 20 April, 1691; he left no will, but a tuition bond for the education of his children was registered at Richmond shortly after his decease. Baines, in his *History of Lancashire* gives the curate's name as *Rikay*, this mistake has been copied by others.

<sup>1</sup> Bishops' Reg., Chester.

<sup>2</sup> Gastrell's *Not. Cest.*, vol. ii. p. 425.

<sup>3</sup> There was a Thomas Ryley [or Rialy] took his B.A. at Mag. Col. Oxford, in 1686, matriculated 23 Aug., 1682. He is described in the college books as "a pauper scholar paying no fees, son of Thos. Riley of Winchester."



## THOMAS SOLLUM, 1692—1693.

He was instituted to the curacy on the nomination of Richard Fleetwood of Rossall, 22 July, 1692.<sup>1</sup> His name does not once appear in the parish registers, and nothing is known of him. It is not improbable that he was a relative of David Sallom<sup>2</sup> (or Sollom) of Whinney Heys, yeoman, whose will, dated 1 June, 1702, was proved at Richmond, and in which he bequeaths 10s. each to Mr. Edward Veale, Mrs. Dorothy Veale, Mrs. Anne Veale, Mrs. Susanna Veale, Mrs. Sarah Veale, Mr. John Veale, Mrs. Ellen Sherdley, and Mr. Geoffrey Veale; the rest of his estate he left to Thomas Sallom of Clayton-le-Dale. A William Sollom of Whinney Heys was buried at Bispham, 13 January, 1680-81.

## JONATHAN HAYTON, 1693—1727-8.

He was instituted to the living, 30 March, 1693, on the nomination of Richard Fleetwood of Rossall, and was at the same time appointed schoolmaster of Bispham school.<sup>1</sup> On 14 October, 1694, his son William was baptized at Bispham, and it was probably his daughter Mary, who, on 29 April, 1717, was married at Bispham to Edward Fitzgerald of "Skubereen, co. Cork, mariner."<sup>3</sup> Jonathan Hayton's name appears in the registers frequently until 1718, after which the duties appear to have been performed by Thomas Hardy<sup>4</sup> up to the year 1720, and subsequently by Christopher Albin. Jonathan Hayton died in February, 1727-8, and was buried at Bispham on the 17th of the month.

## CHRISTOPHER ALBIN, 1725—1753.

The Albin family appear to have lived in the Fylde for several generations. The name of Robert Albyn is recorded on the

<sup>1</sup> Bishops' Registers, Chester.    <sup>2</sup> He was buried at Bispham, 15 February, 1704-5.

<sup>3</sup> The bride was described as "of Bispham," and the officiating priest was "Jonathan Hayton, Minister of Bispham."

<sup>4</sup> Baines (*Hist. of Lanc.*) called Thomas Hardy the curate of Bispham—he does not appear, however, to have been so, except as assistant to Mr. Hayton. He was (I take it) the Thomas Hardy, son of Thomas Hardy of London who entered Lincoln College, Oxford, 11 December, 1696, aged 17.

Preston Guild Rolls of 1397 and 1415. Towards the end of the next century a branch of the family lived at Thornton, one of which, Christopher Albin, made his will 2 Sep., 1638, and in it he names his children, Robert, John, William, Sarah, and Alice; his son Robert was a yeoman of Thornton, and on 7 April, 1681, being "distempered and week of body," in the presence of Richard Harrison, clerk, Jane Roe, and Jennet Tinckler, declared his mind to be as follows:

Imprimis, he made Margaret his wife, his sole executrix, to dispose of his goods for the payment of his debts, and to divide the remainder (if any) equally amongst his said wife and children, except one bond of forty pounds due to him from his son Christopher Albin, one half whereof he freely gave unto his said son, and he ordered that ten pounds, part of the other half, should go to the payment of ten pounds owing to one over Wyer, and ten pounds remaining of the said £40 should go to the payment of his debts; all his wearing apparel he gave to his son Robert Albin, save only that his wife should think fit to take for her own wearing.<sup>1</sup>

The Inventory attached to the above contains a few items of interest, and amounted to £83 11s. 4d.

INVENTORY (extract).

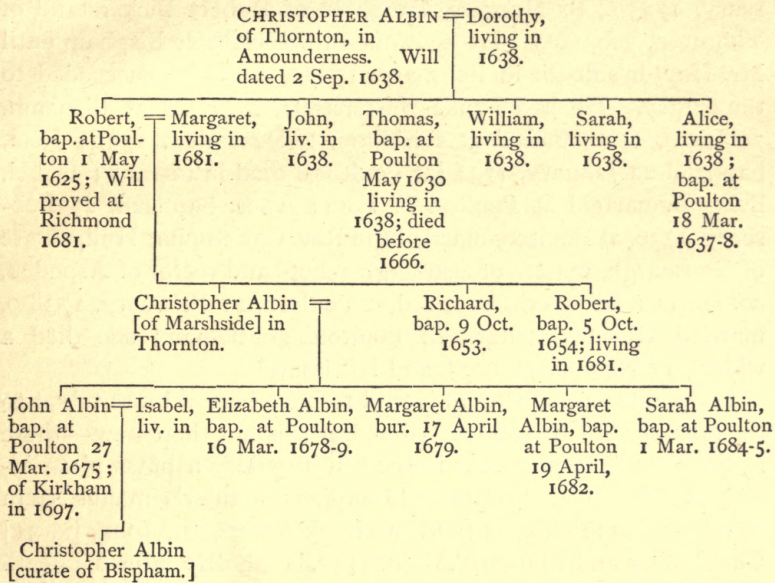
	£	s.	d.
At Christopher Albin's house, two oxen, one bullock, three heffers, and two calves	10	7	6
In the aforesaid house of Christopher Albin one cupboard	0	14	0
In the chamber above one chest, and one pair of bedstocks	0	6	8
In the parlour one table one pair of bedstocks	0	14	8
At his (Robert Albin's) house at Thornton, five cows, one stear, one calf	12	0	0
Two horses, two mares, & one colt	8	0	6

<sup>1</sup> Richmond wills, British Museum, Add. MS. 32, 115.



Worthingt	o	4	8
One gun	o	6	8
Books	o	2	o
A house watch	o	3	4
The third part of one ship	7	o	o

PEDIGREE OF ALBIN OF THORNTON.



Christopher Albin was baptized at Kirkham 21 June, 1697, and in due course was sent to the free grammar school of his native town where he obtained the Exhibition founded by the Rev. James Barker.<sup>2</sup> He matriculated at Brasenose college, Oxford, 17 May, 1715, and took his B.A. degree 19 February, 1718.<sup>3</sup> On the 6th July, 1720 he was admitted as master of the

<sup>1</sup> An old Lancashire word for *manure*.

<sup>2</sup> *Hist of Kirkham*, Chet. Soc., vol. xcii. p. 150.

<sup>3</sup> College books.

Churchtown free school in Garstang, and on the same day instituted curate of Ellel and Shireshead in the parish of Cokerham.<sup>1</sup> He held neither of these appointments long, as in November, 1720, he signs the Registers of Bispham as curate under Mr. Hayton, and some time before 1729 a Mr. Clegg was school-master of Churchtown and curate of Ellel and Shireshead.

Christopher Albin was married by license at Lytham, 13 February, 1725-6, to Margery, daughter of Robert Bickerstaffe of Thornton, yeoman.<sup>2</sup> He continued to officiate at Bispham until Mr. Hayton's death in February, 1727-8 when he succeeded to the curacy. He had issue: Bickerstaffe, baptized at Bispham, 7 March, 1730, buried at Kirkham, 7 December, 1736; John, baptized 22 January, 1734 (at Poulton), died in infancy; Isabel, living unmarried at Poulton in 1788; Alice, baptized, 25 February, 1736, at Poulton, married the Rev. Christopher Hull, curate of Goosnargh, master of Sedbergh school and rector of Aspeden, co. Herts.; Elizabeth, baptized at Poulton, 21 February, 1738-9, married Richard Pollard of Poulton, gentleman; she died a widow, 11 November, 1795, and left issue.<sup>3</sup>

In Poulton church there is said to have been a brass tablet to the memory of Christopher Albin, but it is not there now—there is, however, on a pew door in the south gallery a brass plate inscribed "Introite et orate cælo supinas si tuleris manus sacra feceris malaque effugies [and in Greek letters, St. John, ix. 31] Christopher and Margery Albin, 1752." Shortly after his death a contention arose between his representatives and his successor at Bispham as to the tithes, when the following case was submitted to counsel.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Bishops' Registers, Chester.

<sup>2</sup> Margery Bickerstaffe had two sisters, Margaret and Anne, who married John and Robert, sons of James Fishwick of Bulsnape Hall, Goosnargh, gentleman. They were sisters and co-heiresses of their brother, William Bickerstaffe, who died s.p. in 1729.

<sup>3</sup> Issue: Timothy Pollard, merchant, of Liverpool; the Rev. Richard Pollard of Parsondrove, near Wisbeach; Christopher Pollard of Sedbergh, gentleman, co. York.

<sup>4</sup> From Nicholas Grimshaw's *MS.*



"The Rev. Mr Albin was about twenty-eight years ago<sup>1</sup> nominated curate to the parish church of Bispham by Mr. fleetwood of Rossall, the then patron thereof, and was duly licensed by the then Bishop of Chester, which living he held till the 30<sup>th</sup> June last, when he died.

"There is a stipend of £10 a year paid by the Rossall family to the Incumbent of this living on every 2<sup>nd</sup> day of february at one entire payment chargeable upon an estate called Willcocks, belonging to Roger Hesketh, Esq., now [part] of the fleetwood's of Rossall estates. During Mr Albin's incumbency upon the said Living of Bispham, the Queen's Bounty was twice obtained for it, and the Tyths of Corn of the Township of Layton-with-Warbreck obtained therewith. The parish of Bispham consists of the Township of Bispham-with-Norbreck and Layton-with-Warbreck, and the Incumbent is entitled to the Tyths of Hay, flax, Calves, Colts, Piggs, and Geese arising within the said parish.

"The Tyths of Piggs Mr Albin always took in Kind as soon they were fit to be weaned from their Dam as he did also the tythe of Geese, but those he did not take till about every Michaelmas.

"The Tyths of Calves, Colts and Hay he compounded for with the several parishioners and received such composition in lieu thereof respectively for the year then last past always at Easter along with the Easter dues.

"There are about two Acres of Land purchased also with the money arising from the Queen's Bounty, which Mr Albin set to an under-tenant.

"The said Mr Hesketh has lately nominated the Reverend Mr ffreckleton to be curate of the said parish church of Bispham, and he is or will be licensed thereto.

<sup>1</sup> This would be in 1725, but Jonathan Hayton only died in February, 1727-8, and in the Register of his burial he is styled "Minister of Bispham." Both Thomas Hardy and Christopher Albin are described sometimes (in the Register) as "Curate" and sometimes as "Minister" between 1720 and 1727, but it seems clear that Jonathan Hayton retained the curacy until his death.

“Note — No corn was cut within the said Township of Layton-with-Warbreck at the time of the death of the said Mr Albin, neither was there any Grass or Hay cut within the said parish of Bispham. But there must be several calves, colts, piggs, and geese fallen in this present year within the said parish before Mr Albin's death.

“You are desired for the satisfaction of the Representatives of the late Mr Albin and the said Mr Freckleton to give your opinion to the following queries :—

“Query 1<sup>st</sup>— As no corn was cut within the said Township of Layton-with-Warbreck at the time of the death of the said Mr Albin do the Tyths thereof for this year, now belong to the said Mr Freckleton, the present Incumbent, or have the representatives of the said Mr Albin any right or interest in the same ?

“Query 2<sup>nd</sup>— As the tythes of calves, colts, and hay were not taken in kind but a composition paid for the same by the parishioners of Bispham at every Easter to whom do such Tyths or the composition for the same for this present year, before and since the death of the said Mr Albin belong ? And to whom do the tyths of geese also for this present year belong, they being usually taken in kind at every Michaelmas Day ?

“Query 3<sup>rd</sup>— The stipend of £10 a year has been constantly paid to the Incumbent by the Rossall family on every 2<sup>nd</sup> day of Feby. at one entire payment. To whom will the said stipend of £10 to become due on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February next belong. And whether is there to be any and what appointment of the rent of the said two acres of land left by the said Mr Albin for this present year ?”

Then follows the opinion, as printed below :—

“Answer to Query 1<sup>st</sup>— I am of opinion that the tiths belong to the present Incumbent.

“Answer to Query 2<sup>nd</sup>— I presume there is not any established immemorial right, but only a voluntary composition, and, if so, I think it will not bind the Successor, but that the present Incumbent will be entitled to such Tiths in Kind as became



due after the death of the late Incumbent, but for such of the Tiths as became due before his death, as the Tiths themselves did belong to the late Incumbent, his Executors will retain the composition in respect thereof. As to the tith of geese I think the customary time of takeing the Tiths ought to prevail and consequently as the time happened after the death of the late Incumbent, the present curate is entitled to those tiths.

“Answer to Query 3<sup>rd</sup>—As to the stipend, as it was not payable till after the death of the last Incumbent, I think it whooly belongs to the present curate without any appointment. As to the Rent of the Taxes, I believe the point has never been judically determined and it is a very doubtful question upon the wording of the Act, but although it is not a case within the express words of the Act, yet it seems to be within the equity of the Act, and the Rent should be appointed between the present Incumbent and the executors of the last.

“N. FAZAKERLEY.

“20<sup>th</sup> September, 1753.”

ROGER FRECKLETON, 1753—1760.

The township of Freckleton in the parish of Kirkham gave the name to a family as early as the time of King John.<sup>1</sup> In 1311 the heirs of Adam de Freckleton held of Alice, the daughter and heiress of the Earl of Lincoln, the manor of Freckleton, and a few years later it passed to Ralph Frekelton.<sup>2</sup> In the 18th century the family still held a position in Freckleton, although the manorial lands were not in their holding.

In the well-known Harrison Estates' trial, lately taken in the Chancery court of the Duchy, it was proved to the satisfaction of the court that one Ralph Freckleton married Isabel, one of the daughters of John Harrison of Lea, whose will was dated 18 Oct., 1667; by this marriage there was said to be issue three sons: Henry, died in infancy; Ralph, died unmarried; and Henry, who

<sup>1</sup> Rot. Cancell., 3 John, M. 3.

<sup>2</sup> Chet. Soc., vol. lxxiv. p. 22, and vol. xcii. p. 9.

was born in 1674, and married, at North Meols, Elizabeth Hesketh, by whom he had issue several sons and daughters, one of these was Robert, whose daughter Elizabeth married Thomas Bullcock, and whose descendants laid successful claim to a moiety of the Harrison estates. A younger brother of Robert Freckleton was Roger Freckleton, who was baptized at Kirkham, 21 June, 1719; from the Grammar school of his native town he went to Cambridge, and entered Emanuel college as a sizar, 20 March, 1741-2; he graduated there A.B. 1745, and M.A. 1749. Soon after leaving the university he was appointed curate of Maghull in the parish of Halsall.<sup>1</sup> On the nomination of Roger Hesketh of Rossall, who was a relative of his mother, and after whom he was doubtless named, he was instituted to the curacy of Bispham, 24 Sep., 1753. He married Grace, the daughter of — Aspinall, and was buried at Bispham, 22 June, 1760;<sup>2</sup> his widow married, in 1760 or 1761, John Hull, apothecary, of Poulton, whose grandson became vicar of Poulton. (*Hist. of Poulton*, p. 84.) Roger Freckleton had issue: (1) Thomas, baptised 21 March, 1754, and died in infancy; (2) Thomas, baptised at Bispham, 28 April, 1756. He practised as a surgeon at Poulton, and left one son, John, who was a solicitor of Liverpool, whose only son, Dr. George Freckleton, died a few years ago, leaving a widow and a daughter (Mrs. May), who are now both dead. (3) Ann, baptised 4 May, 1758, died in infancy and buried at Bispham.

ASHTON WERDEN, LL.B., 1760—1767.

Ashton Werden was the eldest son of Stanley Werden of Tulketh, Esq.<sup>3</sup> He was born in 1715, and received his early education under Dr. Towers at Portarlinton, in Ireland; he afterwards

<sup>1</sup> He was there in 1753, when he offered himself for priest's orders. (Bishop's Reg. Chester.)

<sup>2</sup> From June, 1759, to 25 July, 1761, the registers are signed by J. Field, curate of Hambleton.

<sup>3</sup> Preston Guild Roll, 1742, gives the names of Edmund, brother of Stanley Werden and James Werden of Virginia, son of John, brother of Stanley.



went to the university of Dublin, where he matriculated 7 July, 1733, and graduated B.A. in 1738, and M.A. 1741. On 19 Sep., 1741, he was appointed curate of Lytham, which he resigned in 1743. He was instituted to the cure of Bispham 22 Sep., 1760, on the nomination of Roger Hesketh, Esq.; he only held the living for seven years, dying on 2 March, 1767; he was buried in the south aisle of the church, aged 50 (see p. 32).

JOHN ARMETRIDING, B.A., 1767—1791.

The Armetriding family, which does not appear to have been an extensive one, was settled in or about Euxton, in the parish of Leyland, early in the 17th century.

John Armetriding and his son Richard were on the Preston Guild Roll of 1602 as "stallingers." In 1622 he appears again with two additional sons Laurence and Henry; a descendant of one of these was John Armetriding of Euxton, who died 13 Aug., 1684, aged 63, he had issue: Hugh,<sup>1</sup> (James?), Thomas, born at Leyland, 1662, B.A. of St. John's college, Cambridge, instituted vicar of Leyland in 1689; he married Margaret, eldest daughter of Major Henry ffarrington of Werden, and died at Leyland in 1719 without issue; by his will he left many charitable bequests to the parish;<sup>2</sup> Richard, of whom presently; John, and a daughter Elizabeth.

Richard Armetriding, the son of the Rev. Thomas Armetriding, was baptized at Leyland, 3 May, 1668, and died 30 Sept., 1715; his wife Ann died in 1712. He had issue two daughters, Alice and Ann (who were both living in 1718) and a son John, who was baptized at Leyland, 16 Feb., 1707-8; he was admitted a sizar of Trinity college, Cambridge, 1 May, 1727, having come from the Kirkham Grammar school, his master there being Zachary Taylor, M.A.<sup>3</sup> (See *History of Kirkham*, p. 147.)

<sup>1</sup> Hugh Armetriding of Whittle in Leyland, contributed in 1687 towards a preaching minister at Heapey Chapel. (Raines' MSS. 37b. p. 11.)

<sup>2</sup> He also left £150 to his nephew John, son of his son Richard, deceased.

<sup>3</sup> College Books.

In 1730 he took a B.A. degree, and shortly afterwards was appointed curate of North Meols in Lancashire ; on the 25 June, 1736, he was married at Leyland church to Jane, daughter of Edward Woodcock of Euxton, yeoman (she was baptized 8 Aug. 1711); he was nominated to the curacy of Bispham by Fleetwood Hesketh of Rossall, Esq., and instituted thereto 21 May, 1767. In 1789 he was probably in failing health, as in that year the Rev. Thomas Butcher, B.A., was appointed as his curate. His wife died at Bispham and was buried there 19 Sep., 1776; he died in January, 1791, and was buried on the 9th of that month, being, as the registers set forth, "aged 83 within six weeks." It is not known that he had any issue.

#### WILLIAM ELSTON, B.A., 1791—1831.

A branch of the Elston family was settled in the Fylde district in the 17th century, one of whom was Thomas Elston of Layton, yeoman, whose will was dated 9 August, 1765 ; he had two sons, Thomas, of whom presently, and John, who died at Whinney Heys, without issue ; and two daughters, Dorothy and Gratrix. Thomas, the eldest son of Thomas Elston of Layton, in 1786 purchased an estate at Mythop in Kirkham from the Earl of Derby for three lives, where he lived for some years, but subsequently removed to Blackpool, where he died, 11 March, 1803, aged 77 years, and was buried at Poulton ; he married Ann, the daughter of — Butcher of Marton, 3 July, 1748 ; she was buried at Poulton, 18 July, 1807, aged 82 years. Thomas Elston the younger had issue : John of Blackpool, who was heir to his grandfather ; Thomas of Layton, yeoman, died 20 February, 1828, and was buried at Poulton ; he married Ann, the daughter of — Riley, and had several sons and daughters, all of whom it is believed died without issue. William, of whom presently, and two or more daughters. William, the fourth son of Thomas Elston, was born in 1765 or 1766, probably at Mythop, and after receiving his early education at the Kirkham Grammar school he entered



Brasenose college, Oxford, 5 February, 1784, being then 18 years old,<sup>1</sup> where he took his B.A. degree, 10 October, 1787. His father having purchased the next Presentation to Bispham, on 22 February, 1791, he nominated his son William, and he was instituted 4 March following. He was twice married, his second wife's name was Peggy Hull. He is said to have been a man of considerable ability and one of the best preachers in the Fylde; he, however, fell into habits of intemperance, and thus lost the respect of his parishioners. He had a large family, four sons and five daughters; Thomas, the eldest, went to America, and died there without issue; the other three sons became day-labourers, and they and the daughters died childless, the last of them dying in the Kirkham workhouse.

William Elston died at Bispham, and was buried there on 20 August, 1831, aged 66.

CHARLES HESKETH, 1831—1836.

He was the youngest son of Robert Hesketh of Wennington hall, Melling, Esq., and brother to Sir Peter Hesketh (afterwards Sir Peter Hesketh-Fleetwood) the patron of the living, and by whom he was nominated in August, 1831. He was born 15 March, 1804, and baptized at Melling; he entered Trinity college, Oxford, 25 May, 1822, and graduated B.A. 1827, and M.A. 1830; he held both the vicarage of Poulton (to which he was instituted 24 July, 1828) and the curacy of Bispham for some years, during which he lived at Bispham lodge—employing a curate who lived at Poulton. In 1835 he was instituted rector of North Meols, which he held for forty-one years. He resigned the curacy of Bispham in 1836; in 1850 he was appointed rural dean and proctor of convocation for the archdeaconry of Liverpool. During his long residence at Southport his name was associated with almost every charity in the town, All Saints church was built at his sole expense, and through his instrumentality many of the other churches were erected.

<sup>1</sup> College Books.

He died 15 July, 1876, aged 72, and was buried at North Meols. He married Anna Maria Alice, only daughter of Richard Saunders of Wennington hall, Esq., and had issue: Charles Fleetwood, died in infancy; Edward Fleetwood, died Oct., 1886; Anna Maria Fleetwood, Adelaide Fleetwood, Debonnaire Fleetwood, and Caroline Sumner Fleetwood (deceased).

BENNETT WILLIAMS, B.A., 1837—1850.

Bennett Williams was the second son of Roger Hesketh Fleetwood Williams of St. George's, Bloomsbury, barrister-at-law, and Elizabeth his wife, who was the daughter of Richard Statham of Walton, near Liverpool, Esq., and was a descendant of Sir William Williams, bart., Speaker of the House of Commons in the time of Charles II. Bennet Williams of Bodelwyddan, county Flint, Esq., the grandfather of this curate of Bispham, married Sarah, the daughter of Roger Hesketh of North Meols and Margaret Fleetwood, his wife, who was the daughter of Edward Fleetwood of Rossall.<sup>1</sup>

Bennett Williams was born in 1813, he was educated at Winchester, and graduated at Queen's college, Oxford. He was appointed to the curacy of Bispham in 1837, and resigned in 1850; he is now rector of Bramshall, Uttoxeter; he married Isabella Anne, only daughter of Anderson Childers Saunders, late colonel 13th Light Dragoons; he has issue five sons and four daughters, the eldest son, Bennet Hesketh, was born at Bispham in 1838.

HENRY POWELL, M.A., 1850—1857.

Henry Powell, the son of Thomas Powell of Reading, was born at Reading in 1814. He was for seven years a missionary of the Church Missionary Society in Ceylon, and afterwards curate of St. Giles', Reading. He was instituted to Bispham, 26 Nov., 1850, and resigned in Feb., 1857, on his appointment to the vicarage of Bolton-le-Moors. Mr. Powell was appointed an honorary canon of Manchester in 1867, and rector of Eaglescliffe, Yorkshire, in 1887.

<sup>1</sup> Bispham Registers.



W. A. MOCATTA, M.A., 1857—1861.

William Abraham Mocatta was the seventh son of Elias Mocatta and Julia, his wife, daughter of B. de Leon of St. Thomas', West Indies. He was born at Caraccas on 13 October, 1830; he received his early education in a private school in Liverpool, and graduated M.A. at Trinity college, Dublin. He was ordained at Chester in 1853, and was shortly afterwards appointed curate of Christ church, Southport, and district secretary to the Church Missionary Society. In 1857 he was instituted to the curacy of Bispham, which he resigned in 1861 on his appointment to the vicarage of St. Thomas', Eccleston, in the parish of St. Helens (in Lancashire), which he held until his death, 21 December, 1876. He married on 28 April, 1857, Mary Ann, daughter of Mr. Henry Menzies, and left issue: Henry Elias, Maurice John, Julia Caroline, and Mary (a daughter who died in infancy, was buried at Bispham.) In St. Thomas' church is a tablet inscribed "Sacred to the memory of William Abraham Mocatta, M.A., sixteen years vicar of this parish, removed from pitiable pain on St. Thomas' Day, 1876, aged 46 years. 'Well done good and faithful servant.' This tablet was erected by the congregation in loving remembrance of an earnest and zealous pastor, and a sincere friend of education." In the infant school is another tablet "erected by 412 members of the St. Thomas' Working Men's Bible Class, in loving remembrance of their late President, the Rev. W. A. Mocatta, M.A."

He published a memorial sermon entitled "Leaning on her beloved."

JAMES LEIGHTON, 1861—1874.

James Leighton, the son of Richard Leighton of Lancaster, was born in 1831; after his ordination he was for ten years a missionary of the Church Missionary Society at Agra, North India, and at Amritsan, the Punjab. On 26 Nov., 1861, he was instituted to Bispham, which he resigned in 1874. During his incumbency the Sunday school was re-built and enlarged. After

leaving Bispham Mr. Leighton was for ten years incumbent of the cathedral church of Nelson in New Zealand. On his return to England, in 1884, he was appointed rector of Harpurhey, near Manchester.

C. S. HOPE, M.A., 1874—1876.

Charles Stead Hope is the son of the Rev. Richard Mellor Hope, and was born at Duffield in Derbyshire, 1 Feb., 1841. His first curacy was at Hornby, near Lancaster; he was instituted to Bispham 20 Jan., 1874, and resigned the curacy on 20 Jan., 1876, on his appointment to the vicarage of Holy Trinity, Southport.

FRANCIS JOHN DICKSON, B.A., 1876—1885.

The Rev. F. J. Dickson is the son of John B. Dickson of Preston, Esq., and was born in 1847. In 1872 he was appointed curate of Christ Church, Preston, and instituted to Bispham in 1876, which he resigned in 1885 on his appointment to the vicarage of Ribchester.

GEORGE LEIGHTON.

The present vicar.



## CHAPTER IV.

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### THE FREE SCHOOL.

THERE was a school in Bispham in 1621-2, as in February in that year, "Mr. Bamber, schoolmaster of Bispham," contributed to a fund raised in the Diocese of Chester,<sup>1</sup> and 33 years later the following deed gives evidence of another schoolmaster:—

<sup>2</sup> "To all christian people, &c., 9 June, 1655, William Lithom of Bispham, schoolemaster, sendeth greeting. Know ye that the said William Lithom for the consideration of £7 10s. paid by Robert Brodbelt of Bispham, clerk, hath granted unto the said Robert Brodbelt two parcels of meadow and pasture, the one called ye Cudole yard or Lithom's yard, and the other the ould Carr Hey in Bispham, containing one half-acre, parcel of the late tenement of John Lithom, late of Bispham, dec<sup>d</sup>, late uncle to me, the said William Lithom, with common of pasture, &c. To have and to hold the same of the chief lord of the fee for ever free from jointure of Elizabeth my wife, and of every other claim, and I do constitute Richard Smithson of Bispham my turney [attorney] &c.

Signed in the presence of

Nicolas Faire,  
Ric<sup>d</sup> Green,  
John Currit."

Possession was given in the presence of Laurence Webster by Richard Smithson giving to Robert Brodbelt a "piece of earth cut up in the above closure."

<sup>1</sup> Bishop Bridgeman's *MSS.*

<sup>2</sup> Deeds in possession of Mr. W. Asburne.

The founder of the present school was Richard Higginson, who was, no doubt, a native of Bispham, but removed to London, where he died. Sometime shortly before his death he built a school at Bispham, and by his will (in which he is described as of St. Faith's, London), dated 25 July, 1659, he bequeathed £30 a year for the maintenance of the schoolmaster and usher therein. This amount was made chargeable on two messuages in Pater-noster Row, London, which belonged to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's, and in which the estate and interest of the testator had been purchased by him from the commissioners for the sale of Dean and Chapter lands at the time of the rebellion; so that since the restoration of Charles II. the rents could not be raised out of the premises. To obviate this difficulty John Amherst of Gray's Inn, Esq., and Elizabeth his wife (who was the widow and sole executrix of Richard Higginson) gave £200 to John Bonney and others to purchase lands for the maintenance of "an able and learned schoolmaster at the said school at Bispham." All these trustees died except John Bonney without executing the trust, and he, by deed dated 4 April, 1687, in pursuance of a decree of the court of chancery of the county palatine of Lancaster, dated 16 April, 1686, assigned the trust to James Bailey and others, who had been elected by the major part of the inhabitants of Bispham. Ultimately, Henry Warbrecke, in consideration of the sum of £200, conveyed to James Bailey and five others the closes of land called Two Torner Carrs, the two New Heys, the Great Hey, the Pasture, the Boon Low Side, the Little Field, and thirty-five falls of land on the west side of a meadow called Meadow Shoot, containing altogether 14 acres, situate in Layton, in trust for the purposes above-named, and it was agreed that when any three of the five trustees, or six of any eight which should thereafter be chosen should die, the survivors should convey the trust premises to eight new trustees to be chosen two out of each of the townships of Layton, Warbreck, Bispham and Norbreck.

In 1784 the trustees were Laurence Bailey and William Butcher of Lytham, William Bonney of the Hill, William Butcher of the



Bank, John Bamber of Bispham, William Bamber of Larbrick, and Henry Lamb of Whitholme, who in that year let a moiety of the school lands to farm for 14 years to Laurence Fish at Lytham, at a rental of £10 10s. a year.<sup>1</sup>

In 1817 William Bamber and William Butcher, the elder, the then two surviving trustees, convened a public meeting, when the following trustees were elected, viz.: Thomas Elston and George Hodgson of Layton, Robert Bonney and William Bonney of Warbreck, William Butcher, the younger, and James Tinkler of Bispham, and Thomas Wilson and Joseph Hornby of Norbreck. The property then consisted of a dwelling-house for the schoolmaster, and a schoolroom adjoining, and 14 acres of land and an allotment on Layton Hawes. The whole of the land was occupied by the schoolmaster. The land was in bad condition when the master took it but he had considerably improved it, the nominal rent being £70 a year. The school was free to all children of the parish of Bispham, and they were taught reading, writing, accounts, and Latin grammar if required. The attendance varied, according to the time of year, from thirty to sixty.<sup>2</sup>

In 1868 the charity commissioners who then visited the school reported that "the building is an old house, through whose thatched roof the rain penetrates in winter, dropping all over the desks and gathering in pools upon the floor; the room is very small 30½ by 14½ feet, and 7½ feet high to the spring of the roof, and the air being so foul that I was obliged to keep the door open while examining the children." The use of this school-house was discontinued, and the scholars were taught in the Temperance Hall during the building of a school.

In 1695 Laurence Baley of Great Layton held the office of schoolmaster; in that year his daughter Elizabeth was baptized at Bispham.

William Whiteside was the schoolmaster in 1701, as appears from a memorandum of agreement dated 2 Feb. in that year.

<sup>1</sup> Original Deed in possession of Mr. W. Asburne.

<sup>2</sup> Charity Com. Report, 1815 to 1835, Lancaster, p. 223.

whereby Robert Knight of Marton, husbandman, takes from William Whiteside of Bispham, schoolmaster, all that messuage in Peele, heretofore granted to Robert Whiteside, father of the said William Whiteside, by Sir Thomas Clifton, bart., for five years, under a certain "rack-rent;" for this messuage the said Robert Knight agrees to pay £12 10s. a year, on condition that the said William Whiteside takes from him every year during his tenancy "three loads of his best and well-dressed groats at 15s. per load, and one windle of his best wheat well dressed" at the same price, and "as much best barley" as he (the said William Whiteside) "doth think convenient for his house at 8s. per windle."<sup>1</sup>

He was probably succeeded by Alexander Smithson, who was schoolmaster in 1719 (and perhaps earlier) and held it until sometime after 1742. The registers give the baptisms and burials of several of his children, and on 9 Sept., 1742, his wife was buried. He was the son of Richard Smithson of Hayholme in Carlton, and his mother was the daughter of the Rev. Robert Brodbelt (see p. 45). The Smithsons had been settled in Bispham for many years; the will of Alexander Smithson of Great Bispham, yeoman, was proved at Richmond in 1631.<sup>2</sup> Another Alexander Smithson, early in the 18th century, lived at Church-houses in Bispham, and his will is dated 1735.

<sup>1</sup> Original Deed in possession of Mr. W. Asburne.

<sup>2</sup> He held lands in Little Carleton, which he granted to feoffees to certain uses, his goods he left to his wife Margaret, and to George his youngest son.



## CHAPTER V.

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### BISPHAM PARISH REGISTERS.

THESE are very imperfect. The Baptisms begin 1599, but after 1603 there is missing nearly 30 years, after which the entries run on to 1652, and are then wanting until 1661, and are also missing between Oct. 1670 and June 1672. Of the Marriages there are no registers until 1632, and after 1645 there is only one marriage recorded until 1697. The Burials commence in 1632, but there is a chasm between 1651 and 1678. In the register for October 1670 is the following memorandum, which explains the way in which the books were then kept: "The almanacke for the yeare is lost, but if I find it at any time hereafter the persons therein mentioned shall be registered on the left hand as truly as any others. Therefore Reader I humbly begg your excuse wishing noe greater crosse nor losse may eu<sup>r</sup> fall to you or yours.—B." It may be presumed that the "almanacke" was not found, as the only entry on the left-hand page in 1671 is the baptism of Robert Wayte, minister of Bispham.

### EXTRACTS FROM THE REGISTERS.

April, 1599.

<sup>1</sup>Ellin daughter of John — of the parishe of Poulton the viij<sup>th</sup>  
Jane daughter of W<sup>m</sup> ffisher bap. xix<sup>th</sup>

Georg sonne of Hugh Singleton was baptised xj<sup>th</sup>

Issabell daughter of John Rossall of Litle Carleton bap<sup>t</sup> the same  
day.

John sonne of Thomas Bamber was bap<sup>t</sup> the xiiij<sup>th</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This is the first legible entry, the word baptized is omitted in the original.

## May.

Jenet daughter of W<sup>m</sup> Bamber bap<sup>t</sup> xxiv<sup>th</sup>

Jane daughter of Richard Anyon was bap<sup>t</sup> the same day.

## June.

Rob<sup>te</sup> sonne of W<sup>m</sup> Hodgson bap<sup>t</sup> the v<sup>th</sup>

Richard sonne of Henry Benson was baptised the xv<sup>th</sup>

Agnes bastard daughter of John Singleton was baptised xx<sup>th</sup>

## July.

John sonne of Richard Harrison of the parish of Poulton bap<sup>t</sup> vij<sup>th</sup>

Ellen Whinroe daughter of Thom<sup>s</sup> Whinroe baptised the x<sup>th</sup>

## August.

Jenett daughter of John Lithom bap<sup>t</sup> xix<sup>th</sup>

Richard sonne of John Warbreck bap<sup>t</sup> the xxx<sup>th</sup>

## September.

Alice daughter of Richard Bickarstaffe bap<sup>t</sup> the ix<sup>th</sup>

Jenett daughter of Ralph Daly was bap<sup>t</sup> the xxiv<sup>th</sup>

## October.

Alice daughter of Rob<sup>te</sup> Hodgsonne bap<sup>t</sup> the first.

Jenett daughter of Georg Rossall bap<sup>t</sup> the same day.

Ellen daughter of John Hull of The Holmes bap<sup>t</sup> the xiiij<sup>th</sup>

Alice daughter of John Gaulter baptised the xiv<sup>th</sup>

## November.

William sonne of John Cartmell baptised the xij<sup>th</sup>

## December.

Agnes daughter of John Roskell bap<sup>t</sup> the ffirst day.

Thomas bastard sonne of Richard Dagges baptised the xiv<sup>th</sup>

Henry sonne of Thomas Bamber the . . . . .

January.<sup>1</sup>

Constance daughter W<sup>m</sup> Walker was baptised the xvij<sup>th</sup> day.

## February.

William sonne of Rob<sup>te</sup> Bamber was baptised the iiij<sup>th</sup>

Jenett daughter of John Windresse baptised the same day.

<sup>1</sup> Two entries in January illegible.



Richard sonne of Jenett Hull bapt<sup>t</sup> the vj<sup>th</sup>

Richard sonne of John Hodgson bapt<sup>t</sup> the x<sup>th</sup>

Jenett daughter of Thomas Butcher bapt<sup>t</sup> the xvj<sup>th</sup>

Jenett daughter of Thom<sup>s</sup> Bamber xvij<sup>th</sup>

John sonne of Rob<sup>te</sup> Gilchrist was bapt<sup>t</sup> the xxvj<sup>th</sup> 1

March.

Ellen daughter of Rob<sup>t</sup> Sandersonne bapt<sup>t</sup> the xxij<sup>nd</sup>

March 1600.

Jenett daughter of John Hull was bapt<sup>t</sup> the xxx<sup>th</sup>

Aprill.

Jennett daughter of John Davie bapt<sup>t</sup> the ffirst.

William sonne of Thomas Barker of the parishe of Poulton bapt<sup>t</sup>  
the same day.

Rob<sup>te</sup> sonne of W<sup>m</sup> Silcock bapt<sup>t</sup> the xxviii<sup>th</sup>

June.

Alice<sup>e</sup> daughter of John Smith bapt<sup>t</sup> the xvij<sup>th</sup>

July.

Rob<sup>te</sup> sonne of John Award of the parishe of Poulton bap. vj.

August.

Alice daughter of John Anyon bapt<sup>t</sup> xxij<sup>nd</sup>

September.

W<sup>m</sup> sonne of Thomas Hull was bapt<sup>t</sup> the second day.

October.

Thomas sonne of Thomas Bamber was baptised the first day.

December.

Henry sonne of Richard Bickarstaffe was bapt<sup>t</sup> the xxij<sup>nd</sup>

ffebuary.

Thomas sonne of John Shaw bapt<sup>t</sup> ix<sup>th</sup>

Aprill 1601.

Richard sonne of John Crookhell bapt<sup>t</sup> the x<sup>th</sup>

August.

Jennett daughter of James Simpson bapt<sup>t</sup> the xviiij<sup>th</sup>

\* This is a verbatim and complete copy of the Register to this date.

September.

Margrat daughter of Richard Salthouse of Thornton bapt<sup>t</sup> xxiv<sup>th</sup>

October.

W<sup>m</sup> sonne of Tho<sup>m</sup>s Thorneton of Norcrosse bapt<sup>t</sup> the xiv<sup>th</sup>

Margrett daughter of Edward Singleton bapt<sup>t</sup> the xxj<sup>st</sup>

November.

Richard sonne of Richard Anyon of Carleton bapt<sup>t</sup> the v<sup>th</sup>

December, 1601.

James sonne of Henry Davie of litle Bispham bapt<sup>t</sup> . . . .

January.

Henry sonne of Ralph Anyone was bapt<sup>t</sup> the xxvj<sup>th</sup>

ffbruary.

Agnes daughter of Thomas Salthouse of Poulton parishe bapt<sup>t</sup>  
the ix<sup>th</sup>

Elizabeth daughter of Georg Rossall of Norbreck bapt<sup>t</sup> xvj<sup>th</sup>

March.

John sonne of Thomas Harrison of great Bispham bapt<sup>t</sup> the vij<sup>th</sup>

March 1602.

Thomas sonne of John Hull litle Laton bapt<sup>t</sup> the xxvij<sup>th</sup>

Aprill.

Elizabeth daughter Ralph Darbishire de Marton bapt<sup>t</sup>. xiv<sup>th</sup>

June.

Ann daughter of Rob<sup>t</sup> White bapt<sup>t</sup> the xiiij<sup>th</sup>\*

July.

Rob<sup>te</sup> sonne of Tho<sup>m</sup>s Bamber de Poole bapt<sup>t</sup> the viij<sup>th</sup>

September.

Ellen daughter of Thomas Cowban de blackpoole xxij<sup>nd</sup>

Richard sonne of Richard Bamber de More bapt<sup>t</sup> the xxvj<sup>th</sup>

October.

William sonne of Thomas Bamber junr. de Poole xxx<sup>th</sup>

November.

Richard sonne of John Roskell de poole bapt<sup>t</sup> xxj<sup>st</sup>

W<sup>m</sup> sonne of John Singleton de Knowle junr. bapt<sup>t</sup> xxij<sup>nd</sup>

\* Note in the registers reads "this part of the Register is imperfect."



January.

John sonne of Thomas Whiteside de banck in Bispham bapt vij<sup>th</sup>  
[Laurence?] sonne of Hugh Singleton de Whithom bapt xvij<sup>th</sup>

ffbruary.

Rob<sup>te</sup> sonne of Richard Green de Kirkehouses bapt the xiiij<sup>th</sup>

Aprill 1603.

Thomas sonne of Rob<sup>t</sup> Green de Normosse bapt the v<sup>th</sup>

Alice daughter of Thomas Shawe de Angersome bapt the xx<sup>th</sup>

September.

Richard sonne of W<sup>m</sup> ffisher Kirkhouses bapt the ix<sup>th</sup>

November.

John sonne of John Breckhell jun<sup>r</sup> de Holmes bapt xiv<sup>th</sup>

December.

W<sup>m</sup> sonne of Thomas Wyld de Carleton pva bapt the v<sup>th</sup>

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The first volume of register of baptisms ends here, and the marriages and burials are wanting. The next volume of baptisms begins in 1632:

"A true and perfect register of marriages, baptisms and burials, within the parish of Bispham begininge the xv<sup>th</sup> of Aprill, 1632."

May 1632.<sup>1</sup>

ffleetwood daughter of George Singleton of . . . baptized the iv<sup>th</sup>

May 1633.

John the sonne of John Gilchrist of Bispham banck was bapt  
the . . . .

Januarie.

Henre the sonne of Wilt Hull of Litle laton bapt xx<sup>th</sup>

September 1634.

William the sonne of Ric<sup>d</sup> Warbreck of the blackpoole bapt the  
same day [xxiv<sup>th</sup>].

<sup>1</sup> The entries from 1632 to 1635 are almost illegible.

October.

Marie the daughter of With Hull of Norbrecke bap<sup>t</sup> the xxv<sup>th</sup>

August 1635.

Rob<sup>t</sup> the sonne of With Crookall of Warbrecke was bap<sup>t</sup> the x<sup>th</sup>  
day.

October.

Jenet daughter of Rob<sup>t</sup> Hull of the Marshside bap<sup>t</sup> the same day  
[vj<sup>th</sup>].

November.

Mathew the sonne of Mr. John Veale of the Whinoheis bap<sup>t</sup> the  
xxij<sup>nd</sup>

Ric<sup>d</sup> the sonne of John Anyon of the bridgend was bap<sup>t</sup> the same  
day [xxij<sup>nd</sup>].

februarie 1637.

Elizabeth daughter of Richard Anyon of Norbreck was bap<sup>t</sup> the  
same day [xviiij<sup>th</sup>].

October 1638.

Luke the sonne of James Nicason of great laton was baptized  
the xxj<sup>st</sup> day.

Januarie.

Lawrence the sonne of Thomas Singleton of the blackpoole was  
baptized the xxvij<sup>th</sup> day.

May 1640.

Richard sonne of Thomas Hardman of Ritheram was bap<sup>t</sup> the  
xxiv<sup>th</sup> day.

December.

John the sonne of Henrie fisher of the Carr was baptized the  
xxv<sup>th</sup>

August 1642.

With the sonne of Ric<sup>d</sup> Butcher of the banke was bap<sup>t</sup> the xviiij<sup>th</sup>

March 1643.

Ann the daughter of Ric<sup>d</sup> Rilay of the pishe of Pulton bap<sup>t</sup> xvij<sup>th</sup>

May 1644.

Ric<sup>d</sup> sonne of Mr. John Sumner bap<sup>t</sup> the xij<sup>th</sup>



December.

Ric<sup>d</sup> sonne of Tho. Garstange of the pish of Poulton bap<sup>t</sup> the xj<sup>th</sup>  
februarie.

Rob<sup>t</sup> sonne of John Broadbelt of great Bispham was bap<sup>t</sup> v<sup>th</sup>

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May 1652.

John sonne of Christopher Anyon was borne 6 day bap<sup>t</sup> the 8 day.

Witnesses hereof

John Anyon.

Ric<sup>d</sup> Whiteside.

After May, 1652, occurs the following: "We whose names are undersupcribed do certifie all these who are registred from the begining of the year of God 1651 to have been baptised at the parish church of Bispham. John Hartlay, minister of Bispham parish.

Robert Bamber	}	Churchwardens.
John Anyon		
Richard Wild		Robert Brodbelt.
Henry ffisher		

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From 1652 to 1661 the baptisms are wanting.

BAPTISMS.

1661.

George son of Hugh Singleton of G<sup>t</sup> Bispham, 23 March.

1662.

Margaret daughter of Laurence Singleton of Church-houses, 15  
June.

Alexander son of John Singleton of the Know, 19 Aug.

Margaret daughter of Ric. Warbreck of G<sup>t</sup> Laton, 26 Nov.

William son of William Bicarstaffe of G<sup>t</sup> Bispham, 8 Feb.

1664.

Rowland son of Robert Anyon of Oxenday, 19 June.

Alexander son of Ric<sup>d</sup> Smithson of the More, 3 Oct.

1665.

Isabel daughter of William Bicarstaff of G<sup>t</sup> Bispham, 16 Nov.  
Fleetwood son of Thomas Fisher de Norbreck, 31 Dec.

## THE MARRIAGE REGISTERS BEGIN 1632.

April 1632.

Rob<sup>t</sup> Bamber and Alice . . . both of this pish were married the  
xxiv<sup>th</sup><sup>1</sup>

februarie 1639.

Lawrence Singleton of the pish of Bispham and }  
Issabell Waltar of this pish of Stalming were married } the xiiij<sup>th</sup>

November 1640.

William Singleton of this pish and Katherin Litham of }  
this pish of Pulton were married the ij<sup>nd</sup> }  
Peter Woodhouse of the pish of Pulton and }  
Ellen Dobson of this pish were married xxviiij<sup>th</sup> }

2februarie 1643.

Ric<sup>d</sup> Warbrecke and Elizabeth Butcher of this parish }  
were married xxviiij<sup>th</sup> }

februarie 1645.

John fisher and Elizabeth Tomlinson both of the pish }  
Kirkham married ix<sup>th</sup> }

Septembar 1645.

Ric<sup>d</sup> Bisbroone of the pish of Pulton and }  
Elizabeth Gill of this pish were married the ix<sup>th</sup> }

Aprill.

John Hull of this pish of Pulton and }  
Margaret Hull married the xxviiij<sup>th</sup> }

After this there is a gap in the register until 1649, when there  
is one entry, after which there is no marriage register until 1697.

<sup>1</sup> This is the first marriage.

<sup>2</sup> No entry of marriages after this until February 1644, when there is another gap  
of twelve months.



BURIALS (Registers begin April 1632.)

August 1632.

Katherin the daughter of Edward Tinkler of great Bispham was  
buried xxix<sup>th</sup>

September.

Two still borne children of Robart Robson of Laton was buried  
xxviiij<sup>th</sup>

October.

Alis the wife of Robart Robyson of Laton buried twentieth.

March 1633.

Issabell the late wife of John Benson of great Laton xvj<sup>th</sup>

Aprill 1634.

John Pearson of Laton rakes bur xij<sup>th</sup>.

Januarie.

Jenet daughter of Tho. Shawe of Angersome was buried the  
xvij<sup>th</sup>

Januarie 1635.

Josias Habert gentleman of Rossall buried xiiij<sup>th</sup>

March.

Ellin the daughter of Rob<sup>t</sup> Broadbelt clarke of great Bispham  
was bur. the iiij<sup>th</sup>

March 1638.

Ric<sup>?</sup> Biggarstafe of Norbricke was bur. the xxx<sup>th</sup>

Septembar 1640.

John the sonne of Rob<sup>t</sup> Jolife of the Blackpool was buried the  
viiij<sup>th</sup>

Nouembar 1640.

Trinitie the sonne of Wilt Simson of Oxendon was buried the  
iiij<sup>rd</sup>

May 1645.

Ladie fleetwood of Hacansall bur. v<sup>th</sup>

Nouembar 1650.

Mr Edward Veale of the Whinoheys was bur. the xxix<sup>th</sup> day.

March

fleetwood Anyon of Norbricke buried the xx<sup>th</sup> day.

(Chasm in the burials from 1651 to 1678.)

December 1678.

Mrs Dorothy Veale widdow was buried y<sup>e</sup> 21 Instant & affidavit was made y<sup>e</sup> 26 of y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> before Alex. Rigby Esq.

William sonn of William Smyth of litle Layton was buried y<sup>e</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> of the same & affidavit was made y<sup>e</sup> first of January 1678. All before y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Alex. Rigby Esq., and registered p me Rob. Wayte, Minister.

On fly-leaf is a memorandum : " All the burials at y<sup>e</sup> pish church of Bispham in y<sup>e</sup> yeare of our Lord God 1678 after y<sup>e</sup> law for affidavits came vpp was 16."

The affidavits were recorded in this form until 1712 (except that the name of the magistrate is not given.) Everybody was buried in woollen.

#### MARRIAGES.

This volume is headed : " 1696 Mariages in ou<sup>n</sup> Parish of Bispham."

From January, 1697-8, to July, 1719, are written on small pages of paper (18mo), many of the leaves being detached. From June, 1720 the pages are parchment to end of the volume (27 January, 1754-5).



## CHAPTER VI.

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### OLD HALLS AND OLD FAMILIES.

#### WHINNEY HEYS.

THIS ancient mansion stood on a rising piece of ground on the south-east of Layton. What now remains of it is used as a farm-house, and presents no features of special interest. At the beginning of the present century the house was tenanted by a Mr. Greatrix, who was murdered on his way home from Preston market. At various times coins of the time of Elizabeth, Abbey money, and a signet ring set with stones, have been turned up with the plough on land where the old hall stood.

The original builder of Whinney Heys was James Massey of Carleton, who was the third son of John Massey of Rixton,<sup>1</sup> in the county of Lancaster, Esq., and Ann his wife, daughter of Sir John Boothe of Barton, knt.

James Massey married Ann, the daughter of John Cheyney of Wisterton; he had considerable possessions in Carleton, Rossall, and Layton. In 1575 John Singleton brought a writ of "formendon" against him and others concerning lands in Carleton.<sup>2</sup> His son and heir, John Massey, married Ellen, daughter of Thomas Singleton of Staining, Esq.; in 1601 he was living at Whinney Heys; he died 30 October, 1619, and was seised of a capital messuage called "Whinyheyes" in Little Laton, and divers closes of land appertaining thereto, viz., 10 acres of arable, 15 acres of pasture in Laton; also 15 acres of arable, 10 acres of

<sup>1</sup> *St. George's Visitation of Lancashire.*

<sup>2</sup> Record Office, vol. lv., 17 Nov., 1575.

meadows, and 15 acres of pasture in Staining ; also a windmill in Little Laton ; a windmill, a cottage, and one acre of land in Carleton. A messuage in the tenure of John Salter, a cottage in the tenure of John Hodgson, two gardens, 20 acres of arable, 20 acres of meadow, and 20 acres of pasture in Little Layton ; and three messuages, a cottage, four gardens, 10 acres of land, five of meadow and 10 of pasture in Great Bispham ; also a messuage and three acres of land in Norbreck, in the tenure of William Rossall. The said John Massey, by charter dated 2 March, 8th James [1609-10], enfeoffed the messuage, etc., to Cuthbert Clifton of Westby, Esq., Richard Massey of Rixton, Esq., and James Layton of Poulton, gentleman, to the use of his heirs male, and in default thereof to the use of Ellen his daughter, now wife of Edward Veal, gent., for her life ; after her decease to her husband, with remainder to the heirs of John Veal, son and heir-apparent of the said Edward Veal, and in default to the heirs male of Massey the second son of the said Edward Veal ; in default to Edward the third son, and in default to Francis the fourth son.

The messuages in Little Layton were held of the King in capite by knight's service, viz., 20th part of a knight's fee, value per annum clear 10s. ; the lands in Staining were held of the King in socage, and were worth 20s. a year clear ; the messuage, etc., in Great Bispham, were held of the King in socage, and were of the yearly value of 6s. 8d. ; the cottage in Norbreck was held of the same, and was worth 6d. a year ; the mill in Little Carleton was valued at 12d. a year. Ellen Veal and Alice Bamber,<sup>1</sup> widow, were the daughters and co-heirs of the said John Massey ; Ellen Veal being 36 years old, and Alice Bamber 34 and above.<sup>2</sup>

The Vele (or Veale) family were settled in Gloucestershire at a

<sup>1</sup> Robert Bamber of Poulton died 2 November, 1616, seised of lands, etc., in Poulton, which he demised by indenture dated 29 October, 1616, to Edward Veal in trust for his younger children. (See *History of Poulton*, p. 178.)

<sup>2</sup> *Inq. post mort*, Record Office, vol. xxii. No. 71.



very early period, where, according to the Herald's Visitation of 1623, Henry, the son of Galfridus Vele, was living in 37 Henry III. [A.D. 1252-3]. One of his descendants, Nicholas Vele, had issue: (1) Thomas Vele of Aleston in Gloucestershire, who entered the pedigree in 1623, (2) William, (3) Richard, (4) Peter, (5) Edward, (6) Nicholas, and (7) Philip. At the Visitation Thomas Vele placed on record that he had then living a son, William, and two daughters; nothing is stated about the other brothers, so that it is possible that the Lancashire branch of the family descended from one of them. Another likely source is from a descendant of Edward Vele, an elder brother of William Vele, the father of the above-named Nicholas. This Edward Vele had four daughters<sup>1</sup> and an only son, Edward Vele of Over in Gloucestershire, who had issue: (1) John, (2) William, (3) George, (4) Richard, (5) Peter, (6) Edward, and (7) Nicholas.

Another pedigree (of five generations) is recorded, showing the descendants of Thomas Vele of the City of Gloucester. In both cases the arms are practically the same as of the Veales of Whinney Heys, "Argent on a bend sable, three calves passant, or." Taking the dates into consideration, and presuming that the Lancashire family is a branch of the Gloucestershire family, it would appear at least probable that the John and George Vele, sons of Edward Vele of Over, removed to Lancashire.

In the latter part of the 16th century a branch of the family settled in the parish of Kirkham. John Veale, for the military muster of 1574, was amongst those in Amounderness who were called upon to find "1 calivar and 1 morriane;" his wife was buried in Kirkham church in —, 1574. George Veale, probably the brother of the above-named John Veale, was buried at Kirkham, 19 June, 1571, and one of the two was doubtless the father of Francis and Anthony Veale, the first of whom was the ancestor of the Veales of Whinney Heys. Anthony Veale was the defendant in a suit in the Duchy Court in 42 Eliz. [1599-1660]; the plaintiffs

<sup>1</sup> One of the daughters, Margaret, married *Anthony Bradstone*, from whom *Anthony Veal* may have got his name.

were the sons of Edward Fleetwood of Rossall, and the matter in dispute was a claim to messuages and lands in Little Layton, Marton, and Bispham.<sup>1</sup> Anthony Veale died 24 August, 1609, and was buried at Poulton; from his *Inquis. post mort.* taken at Preston, 19 April, 1610, it appears that he held the rank of "gentleman," and was seised in fee of a messuage, a garden, and 16 acres of land, meadow and pasture, in Great Marton (late in the tenure of Henry Norres, deceased), with common of pasture and turbury, which he held of the King as of the duchy by knight's service, and which were worth 5*s.* a year clear. Being so seised, he, by charter dated 10 Aug., 1598, for a certain consideration infeoffed thereof John Hulton of Darley, Richard Forneby of Forneby, gentleman, Robert Bamber of Cartegate,<sup>2</sup> in Great Marton, yeo., and John Eccleston of Great Singleton, schoolmaster, their heirs and assigns, to the use of himself for life; then a moiety to the use of his wife, Ann, for her life, the reversion of which, with the other moiety, to the use of Thomas Singleton of Ingolhead, gentleman, and Margaret his wife and their issue for ever; by virtue whereof and by force of the statute of uses, Anthony Veale was seised of the premises in freehold for life with remainder as aforesaid.

He was likewise seised in fee of three acres of land in Great Marton (late in the tenure of Richard Warbrecke), worth 4*d.* a year. His next heir was his "cousin," Edward Veale, viz., son of Francis, his elder brother; he was then aged 35 years.<sup>3</sup> His will was proved at Richmond; it is one of the lost wills, but the following extract has been preserved:—<sup>4</sup>

"Anthony Veale of Great Martoune, in the parish of Pulton, gent., 8 Aug., 1609. His body to be buried in the parish church of Pulton; his lands and tenements to the uses set forth in a

<sup>1</sup> Record Office, *Duchy Records*, clxx. f. 17.

<sup>2</sup> Robert Bamber of Cartegate had a son, Richard, buried at Poulton, 25 April, 1604.

<sup>3</sup> Record Office, xx. No. 4 [printed in vol. 3 of Lanc. and Ches. Record Society].

<sup>4</sup> Brit. Mus. Add. MSS. 32,115.



deed of feoffment, dated 10 Aug., 40 Eliz. [1598]; all his tackes and leases to Thomas Singleton, his son-in-law, and Margaret Singleton, his wife; to Edward Veale, his nephew, his gold ring; to John Symons, alias Veale, his bastard son, £5; all the rest, after his debts are paid, to Thomas Singleton, his son-in-law, and Margaret his wife. John Sanderson and Thomas Sanderson, Executors."

Francis Veale, in the pedigree recorded by Dugdale, 1664-5, is said to be of "Whinney Heys," but it is evident that he certainly was not the owner of it, and it is more than probable that he never lived there. He was alive in 1609. He had issue, Edward Veale, who was born in 1575, probably at Kirkham; in 1608 he was living at Methop<sup>1</sup>, or Mythorp, in Weeton; in that parish, he married Helen, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of John Massey of Whinney Heys, and on his father-in-law's death, in 1619, he went to live on what afterwards became the family estate. Although he ceased to reside in Kirkham, yet he continued to interest himself in its parochial affairs, and in 1638 we find him taking part in the dispute between the "30 sworn men" and their vicar, when he signed a petition as a "particular man,"<sup>2</sup> together with 483 parishioners, to the Bishop of Chester, in favour of the authority and dignity of the sworn men being maintained, which, it appears, the vicar had attempted to interfere with. [See *History of Kirkham*, p. 100.<sup>3</sup>] In 1621 his name appears in the list of "Free Tenants" in Amounderness, and about the same time he was a justice of the peace for the county. In the religious strife in the time of Charles I. he took the side of the Puritans, and in 1646 he was one of the laymen of the VII. Classis of Lancashire. He died 27 Nov., 1650, and was buried at Bispham. His will, dated 25 Nov., 1650, was proved at Richmond; by it he directed that his body was to be buried

<sup>1</sup> Methop was held by his descendants for several generations. (See John Veal's will, 1704.)

<sup>2</sup> By this was meant a man of standing and position; he is described as "Esquire."

<sup>3</sup> Chet. Soc. vol. xcii.

in "the parish church of Bispham," and he bequeathed to his son John "one great cupboard;" to his son, Massie Veale, 40s.; to George Sharples, his son-in-law, 40s.; to his son, Singleton Veale, £8; to Ellen Cornoe, widow, his daughter, £3; to Ann Edwardson, widow, his daughter, £8; to Augustine Heardson, his grandchild, 40s.; and he appointed John Veale, his son, and George Sharples to be his executors.<sup>1</sup>

Edward Veale had issue eight sons and seven daughters. [See pedigree.] John, the eldest, of whom presently. Francis, the fourth son, lived at Whinney Heys, and does not appear to have married. His will, dated 25 Nov., 1669, was proved at Richmond in 1670. In it he is described as "of Whinney Heys in Little Laton, gent.," and he makes the following bequests:—

"To my cozen, Jane Veale, 40s.; to my cozen, Edward Veale, 40s.; to my cozen, George Sharples, 20s.; to Brother Sharples' younger sons, either of them, 5s.; to my cozen, Augustine Heardson, 20s.; to my cozen, Jane Veale, one Bible; to my cozen, Susanna Veale, 10s.; to my cozen, Ellen Hodgson, 10s." He left the remainder of his goods to his cozen, John Veale, whom he also made executor.

#### INVENTORY [OF THE GOODS OF FRANCIS VEALE].<sup>2</sup>

	£	s.	d.
One bed & boulder	1	1	6
Two corverlets & one blanket	0	8	6
One chaffe bed	0	1	6
Books	0	1	0
One plad	0	1	0
One chaire & quishon	0	1	6
Three boxes & trunke	0	6	0
One pann	0	0	10
One barrell	0	1	4
One bed-stock	0	1	6

<sup>1</sup> Brit. Mus. Add. MSS., 32,115.

<sup>2</sup> Filed with the will.



Detts owinge	14	0	0
Aparell	0	17	0
	<hr/>		
	£17	1	8

From the poverty of this list, it is apparent that Francis Veale lived with his brother, but was never the tenant of the hall. Possibly at this time the house was divided, as it also appears to have been in 1702, when David Sollom, yeo., lived there (see p. 53).

John Veale, the eldest son of Edward, died about the year 1669, letters of administration being granted at Richmond in that year. An inventory has been preserved, which shows that his goods were worth £162 12s. 10d., which included a collection of books, which were valued at £3 15s. 0d. The house then consisted of the hall, Mr. Holcroft's chamber, Mr. Massie's chamber, the yellow chamber, the little chamber, the kitchen, the garret, the brewhouse, the buttry and pantry, and the chamber over the buttry.

"A true and perfect inventory of the goods, &c., of John Veale of the Whinyhey within Layton, in the county of Lancaster, Esquire, deceased, valued by Richard Bamber of Stayning, William Higginson of Bispham, Henry Hall of Little Marton, and John Welsh of Whitgate, yeoman.

	£	s.	d.
Imp <sup>ris</sup> Six heffers	13	00	00
Six calves	06	00	00
One ox	01	10	00
Two other oxen	09	02	06
Six cowes	14	10	00
ffive horses	11	00	00
Oats	14	10	00
Barly	03	00	00
Wheate	00	08	00
Hay	06	10	00
Turves	05	10	00

Three ladders	00	10	00
Twelve sheep	02	00	00
Carts, wheels, & one carr	05	13	04
Ploughs & harrows	01	00	00
Husbandry geare in workhouse	01	05	00
Mosswood	00	06	08
ffive stone troughs	00	13	04
Swine	01	06	08
ffoure sacks, a pook, and a dighting cloath	00	10	00
Meal and malt	03	03	04
Arks Salting xx and barrells	01	17	04
Hemp & flax	00	06	08
Pewter & brass	03	03	00
Racks, spits, dripping-pan & other things in the kitching	01	00	00
Also goods in the kitching	01	14	00
In the brewhouse	02	09	08
"    "    garrett	00	17	00
"    Mr. Holcroft's room	02	18	04
"    the yallow chamber	04	03	04
"    a little chamber	02	01	04
"    Mr. Massie's chamber	05	05	00
"    the buttery & pantry	00	15	02
"    "    hall	04	13	00
One Jack	00	06	08
In butter, cheese & poolety	01	13	04
"    closett & linnen	07	06	08
Books and other things in the chamber over the buttery	03	15	00
In money & gould	09	15	02
"    decedents apparell	08	13	04

Sum Tol.

---

 £164    2    10"
 

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1 Nov., 1669.



He married Dorothy, the daughter of Matthew Jephson of Hawkswell, co. York, Esquire, who survived her husband, dying in Dec., 1678. They had issue four sons and five daughters: (1) John, the eldest son, died in childhood; (2) Edward was baptized at Bispham, 12 May, 1632; he matriculated at Christ Church, Oxford, 27 Feb., 1650-1,<sup>1</sup> and graduated there B.A. 13 Feb., 1651-2, and M.A. 21 Feb., 1653-4, and in the meantime was elected a fellow of Trinity College, Dublin. He was ordained at Winwick, in Lancashire, 19 Aug., 1657, to Dunboin, in Leinster. On 23 Jan., 1660, he presented a King's letter to the Dublin University to be admitted as a senior fellow. This letter was received "with humility," and the Provost returned this answer: "That some time must be allowed to deliberate upon the contents of the letter, inasmuch as the seniority was full."<sup>2</sup> About this time he was elected junior proctor, but it is improbable that he ever obtained the coveted senior fellowship. On 17 Jan., 1661-2, he took the degree of B.D.

On his leaving Ireland, Calamy<sup>3</sup> says he brought with him a testimonial of his being "a learned, orthodox minister, of a sober, pious, and peaceable conversation, who, during his abode in the college, was eminently useful for the instruction of youth, and whose ministry had been often exercised in and about the city of Dublin, with great satisfaction to the godly, until he was deprived of his fellowship for nonconformity to the ceremonies imposed in the church, and for joining with other ministers in their endeavours for a Reformation." This was signed by Stephen Charnock and six other ministers.

Although Calamy says he was ejected, he gives no clue as to the place from whence he was ejected. On coming to England he became chaplain to Sir William Waller of Middlesex, and subsequently was a minister at Wapping. He is also said to have kept a nonconformist academy at Stepney.<sup>4</sup> He did not,

<sup>1</sup> In college books he is described as the "son of a gentleman."

<sup>2</sup> Dublin Univ. Calender.

<sup>3</sup> Nonconformist's Memorials, vol. i. p. 162.

<sup>4</sup> Rawl. MSS. c. 406, p. 104.

as Calamy asserts, remain at Wapping until his death, as in his will, dated 24 Nov., 1705, he is described as of "Peckham in the parish of Camberwell, co. Surrey, clerk." He appears at this time to have been a widower, as he makes no mention of his wife, but leaves £30 to his sister, Mrs. Martha (which he owed her), and £5 for mourning to his sister-in-law, Mrs. Mary Maple, widow. All the rest of his property he left to his daughter, Katherine Veale, spinster, whom he made executor, and he desired to be buried in the parish church of Battersea, in Surrey. This will was proved by his daughter, on 25 June, 1708. He died 6 June, 1708, aged 76 years. His funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. Thomas Symonds, who was afterwards minister of Wapping.

He published "A Funeral Sermon on the death of Dr. Jer. Butt, from Neh. xiii. 14." 1694. 4to. "Five Discourses." 1703. 12mo. "Two Discourses." 1705. 12mo. He and Adams wrote a notice of Stephen Charnock, which formed a portion of their preface to his discourse on Divine Providence. Some of his sermons are in the "Morning Exercises."

(3) Matthew died in infancy; (4) John Veale, of whom presently; (5) Helen, was living in 1669, and is named in the will of her uncle Francis as his "cozen<sup>1</sup> Ellen Hodgson"; (6) Susanna, died unmarried in 1682; (7) Jane, was living in 1669; (8) Dorothy, died young; (9) Martha, was named in her brother Edward's will in 1705.

John Veale, the fourth son of John Veale, lived at Whinney Heys. He married Susanna, the daughter of Geoffry Rushton of Antley and of Preston, M.D., and Anne, his wife, daughter of Oliver Browne of London, and widow of Richard Shaw of Preston. Geoffry Rushton recorded a pedigree at the Visitation of 1664-5, which showed his descent from Ralph Rushton of Antley, whose son, Nicholas, was living in the time of Hen. VIII.

John Veale was a justice of the peace for the county, and at

<sup>1</sup> In this will the testator, as was common, speaks of his nephew and neice as his "cozens."



the Jacobite Trials at Manchester, in 1694, he was one of the jurymen "challenged for the King and Queen without showing cause," and therefore did not serve on the jury.<sup>1</sup> He died 30 Jan., 1704, aged 60. There is a memorial brass in Bispham (see p. 31). His will, dated 21 Jan., 1703-4, was proved at Richmond by his widow, but not until 24 Feb., 1708-9. The substance of it is as follows: "I John Veale of Whinney Heys, Esq., being sick and indisposed, do make this my last will, &c. My messuage and tenements in Weeton-cum-Press, commonly called Mythop, now in my possession, I give to my son Edward Veale. To my wife £30 out of my personal estate. To my children John, Jeffery, Dorothy, Anne, Susanna, and Sarah Veale, equally amongst them, all the rest of my personal estate. All my messuages, lands, and tenements in Layton, Staining, Marton, Bispham, and Poulton, I leave to Edward Rishton of Antley, Esq., and Jeffery Hornby, eldest son of Edmund Hornby of Poulton, Esq., in trust, the same to be divided into three parts, one part for my wife for her life, in lieu of dower, and after her death to the use of my son Edward and his heirs male, failing issue, then my second son, John, failing issue, to my third son, Jeffery; if none of my sons have issue, then to my right heirs. I charge my son, Edward, to pay to each of my children, John, Jeffery, Dorothy, Ann, Susanna, and Sarah, such sums as will make up with their share of personal estate to £150 each, to be paid when they severally attain the age of 21 years, or be married. If any of my daughters wish to live at Whinney Heys, so long as they remain unmarried and no longer, they shall have that chamber called Mr. Holcroft's chamber, with the closet, on the north side."

He had issue: (1) Edward Veale of Whinney Heys, who was born in 1680. He is frequently mentioned in Thomas Tildesley's *Diary*,<sup>2</sup> and he is always called "Captain Veale." In 1712 [2 April] the diarist writes: "We spent 1s. a pice in whitte

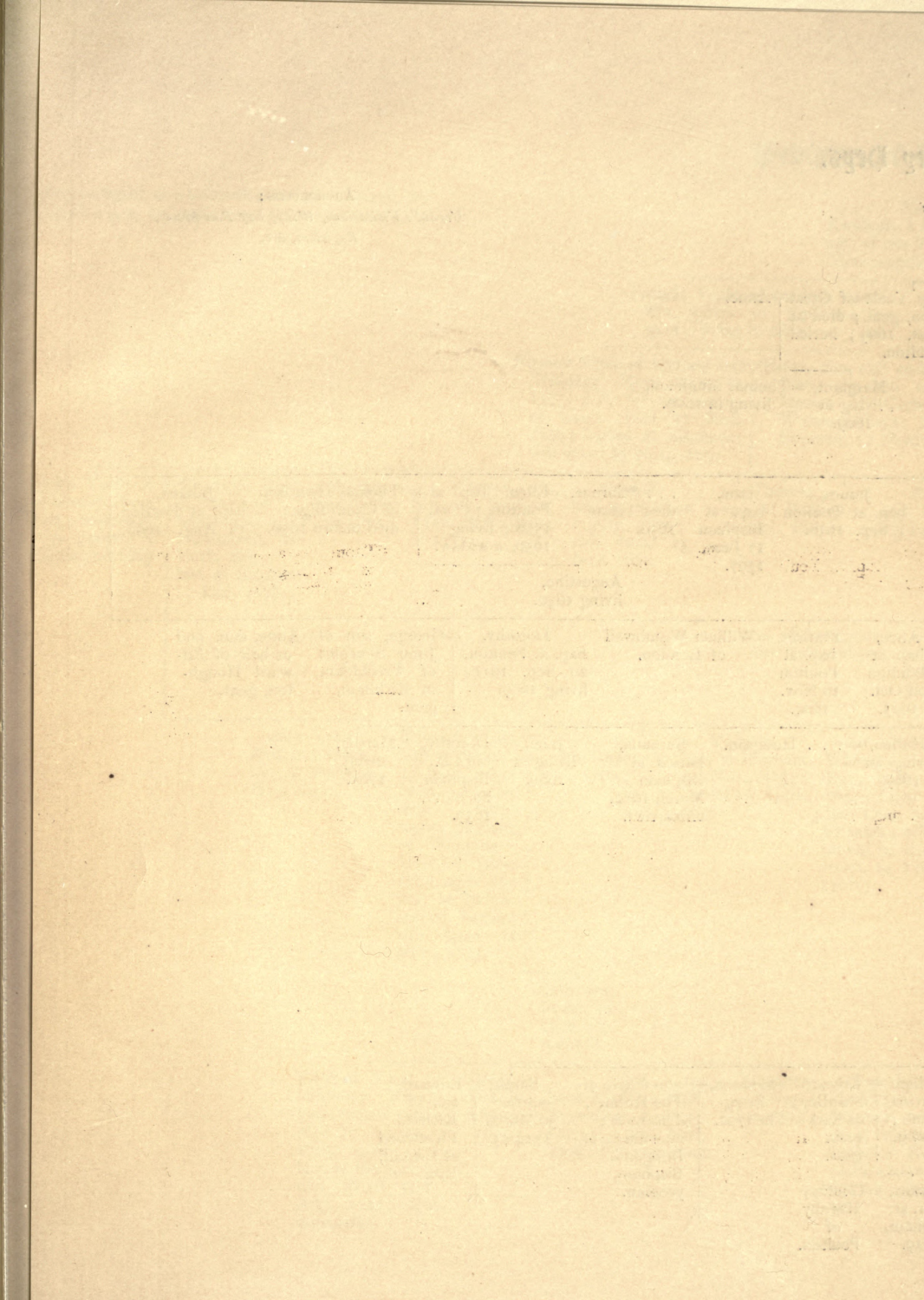
<sup>1</sup> Chet. Soc. vol. lxi. p. 5.

<sup>2</sup> The Tildesley *Diary*.

wine, and as wee went through y<sup>e</sup> hall met with Just. Long—th, Cap<sup>t</sup> Veale, Just. Pearson, Franke Nickinson, and small L<sup>d</sup> of Roshall. Wee were very merry upon y<sup>e</sup> small Lord [*i.e.*, Edward Fleetwood], and spent 1s. a pice in sack and white wine, wh<sup>l</sup> elivated y<sup>e</sup> petite L<sup>d</sup> that, beffor hee wentt to bed, he tucke y<sup>e</sup> freedom off biting off his man, Sharocke, his thumb just beyond y<sup>e</sup> nail." "On 11 September all morning with Sany Butler a fflowling. About noon Captain Veale came and dined with us, when wee were very merry over one bottle of claret and 2 off sherry. On the next day "after din<sup>r</sup> went to see y<sup>m</sup> att Whinny Heys: stayed 2 hours: then Cap<sup>t</sup> went with mee to see Richard Butcher, where we stayed all night: and thence to Fox Hall." In 1713, 14 April, "went to Roshall. Din<sup>d</sup> with the trustys, y<sup>e</sup> Lord and his Lady, Mr. Paull, and Cap<sup>t</sup> Veal."

Edward Veale died unmarried, 11 Aug., 1723, and was buried at Bispham [p. 31]. His will, dated 31 Aug., 1722, was proved at Richmond. It contains the following bequests, viz.: "To Edward Sherdley of Poulton, woollen draper, Richard Wilson of Newton, yeoman, and William Hornby of Poulton, gentleman, my executors, £150, to be raised out of my personal and real estate, and to put the same out to interest, and to pay therewith for the education and maintenance of my niece, Susanna Faile, until she be 21 years old; also £150 to be paid to her when she attain her 21<sup>st</sup> year; also to my executors, £100 in trust for my sister, Dorothy Veale, for her life. To my neice, Veale Fleetwood, £100. To my executors in trust £200 for the use and behoof of the preaching minister for the time being of the parish of Bispham for ever, upon condition that the bounty money given by the late Queen Anne be obtained to the said church within four years after my death, and not otherwise, and if the grant be not obtained, then I give the said £200 to Susanna Fayle, my neice, and Margaret Fleetwood, daughter of Edward Fleetwood of Rossall, Esq., equally between them. To my nephew, Evan Wilkinson, £10. To John Bennett, my servant, £5; to each of my other servants, 20s. Whereas, by my father's







# Pedigree of Veale

*Arms*—Argent, on a bend sable, three calves passant, Or.  
*Crest*—A garb, Or, enfiled with a ducal coronet, Gules.

..... VEALE of  
 Kirkham, a descend-  
 ant of the Veales of  
 Gloucestershire.

Francis Veale of Methop, in  
 the parish of Kirkham,  
 gent; living in 1609.

Edward Veale of Methop and Helen, dau. and co-heiress of  
 Whinney Heys, born in John, the son of James  
 1575, J.P. for the county Massey of Carleton and  
 of Lanc.; died 27 Nov. Whinney Heys; buried at  
 1650; buried at Bispham; Bispham, 17 March, 1634.  
 will dated 25 Nov., 1650.

John Veale of Whinney Heys, Esq.; born 1605; adm. granted at Richmond, 1669.	Dorothy, dau. of Matthew Jephson of Hawkswell, co. York, Esq.; bur. at Bispham .. Dec. 1678.	Massey, was living in 1650.	Edward, bap. at Poulton 1 Jan. 1608; living in 1713.	Francis, bap. at Poulton 1 July, 1610; will dated 25 Nov. 1669.	Thomas, bap. at Poulton 21 Oct. 1613.	Richard, bap. at Poulton 18 Jan. 1615.
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... Edwardson, = Anne, =  
 died before 1650. bap. at  
 Poulton  
 30 May,  
 1602.

John Veale, died in infancy; bur. at Bispham May, 1641.	Edward Veale, bap. at Bispham 12 May, 1632, M.A. Ejected from ... after- wards Minister of Wapping. Died 6 June, 1708, aged 76; bur. at Batter- sea, co. Surrey; will dated 24 Nov., 1705.	..... died before 1708.	Matthew, bap. at Bispham 22 Nov., 1633; buried 19 April, 1636.	John Veale of Whinney Heys, Esq., born in 1644; died 20 Jan. 1704, aged 60 years; will proved at Rich- mond, 24 Feb., 1708-9.	Susan dau. of Rishton of Poulton Antle Lanc. di May, 17 67 yrs.
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Katherine,  
 living in  
 1708, un-  
 married.

Edward Veale of Whinney Heys, Esq., born in 1680; died 11 August, 1723, aged 43; bur. at Bispham; will dated 31st Aug. 1722; died unmarried.	John, died in infancy, 1682.	John, born in 1685; M.A. Brazenose College, Oxford, 7th June, 1708; died unmarried.	Geoffrey, living in 1702.	Dorothy, christened at Bispham 23 May, 1671; buried at Bis- pham 12 Jan., 1747-8; aged 76.	Al- bap. at pham 1673-4 in 1702
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# Veale o Whinney Hys.

## AUTHORITIES:

*Herald's Visitations, Wills, Ing. Post Mort.,  
Registers, &c.*

Anthony Veale of Great=Anne.  
Marton, gent.; died 24  
August, 1609; buried  
at Poulton.

Margaret, =Thomas Singleton,  
living in living in 1609.  
1609.

Singleton, born after 1613; living 1650.	James, bap. at Poulton 1 Sep. 1616.	Jane, bap. at Bispham 17 June, 1597.	. . . *Cornoe, =Ellen, bap. at died before Poulton, 15 Oct. 1650. 1598; living 1650, a widow.	=Thomas Heardson of Cambridge; bap. at Poulton died before 1650. 15 Aug. 1600.
Augustine, living 1650.				

=John Austen London.	Alice, bap. at Poulton 26 Oct. 1603.	Frances, bap. at Poulton 16 Nov. 1604.	=William Wombwell of London.	Dorothy, bap. at Poulton, 29 Sep. 1611; living 1669.	=George, son of =Anne, dau. and John Sharples co-heir of Ed- of Freckleton ward Hough- in Kirkham, ton, gent.
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=Susanna, dau. of Rishby M.D., of Poulton and Andover county Lanc. died 20 May, 18, aged 67 years	Hellen, = . . . Hodgson. living in 1669.	Susanna, buried at Bispham March 1682, unmarried.	Jane, living in 1669.	Dorothy, born at Bispham 20 Nov., 1639.	Martha, living 1705.
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Am bap. at s- pham an., 1673-4; ing in 1702.	Ellen, = Edward married Shirdley 4 Feb., of Kirk- 1698-9. ham, gent.	Susanna, = John Fayle of living The Holmes, in 1702. Thornton; afterwards of Bridgend, Bispham, yeoman.	Sarah, = Edward, married son of 30 March Richard 1714-15. Fleetwood of Rossall, Esq.
Susanna, = Geoffrey mar. at Hornby at Bispham, of 1719. Poulton.			



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will, I have power to charge my lands, &c., in Marton, Layton, Bispham, Norbrick, Staining, and Poulton, with any sum not exceeding £800, and being satisfied that my personal estate will fall short to discharge my debts, funeral expenses, and legacies, my will is that the land be charged with such sum as shall be required." Proved 27 Aug., 1723.

(2) John Veal, died in infancy; (3) John Veale, born in 1685; he matriculated at Brasenose College, Oxford, 23 March, 1701-2 (aged 16 years), where he graduated B.A. 7 March, 1705, and M.A. 7 June, 1708; his subsequent career has not been discovered, but not being named in his brother's will, he probably died before 11 Aug., 1723, unmarried; (4) Jeffery, was living in 1703, being then under age; (5) Dorothy, died unmarried, 1747-8, aged 76 [see Brass p. 31]; (6) Anne, was under age in 1702; (7) Ellen, married 4 Feb., 1698-9, Edward Sherdly of Kirkham, and had issue; (8) Susanna, married John Fayle of The Holmes, and afterwards of Bridgend,<sup>1</sup> Bispham, and had issue. Behind the house at Bridgend is a stone let into the wall, on which is cut "John Fayle, Susanna Fayle, 1711." (9) Sarah, married 30 Mar., 1714-15, to Edward Fleetwood of Rossall, and had issue.

The last Veale of whom we find any record in the parish register is Dorothy Veale, who was buried 12 Jan., 1747-8, and was described as "late of Whinney Heys, but later of Poulton." This fact, and the record between 1736 and 1745 of three marriages in each of which one of the contracting parties was living at Whinney Heys, makes it evident that the old hall was fallen from its former position, and was probably occupied by two or more farmers.

The property passed to the Hesketh family, and is now used as a farmhouse.

<sup>1</sup> At Bridgend, in 1635, John Anyon was living. In this house is a very fine old oak cupboard, which came from Treales in Kirkham, on it is "A.C. 1676."

## LAYTON HALL.

This was originally the manor house. In 1583 it was falling into ruins (see p. 7), and upon the same site was built the house which was afterwards for a time the residence of a branch of the Rigby family, who purchased it from the Fleetwood family. Alexander Rigby of Burgh, whose will, dated . . . , 1588, was proved at Chester, does not appear to have had any connection with Layton. The will itself is in a very dilapidated condition. The substance of it is: "I give such . . . as lye in Duckesbry, Chorley, and Coppull to my son Edward Rygby and his heirs, in default to my son Roger, in default to Jane and her heirs, eldest daughter of Edward Rygby aforesaid; in default to Alice, another daughter of Edward; in default to Margaret, daughter of the said Edward; in default to my son, Roger. I will that my son Roger, and Alexander his son, shall have and enjoy all those lands which I hold by lease in the lordship of West Derby, and I will that James Rygby, my bastard son, and his wyffe have the rent of my lands in Shevington, to be made up to 5 marks a year. And I will that Alexander, son of the said James, and Elizabeth, daughter of the said James, shall have out of the p'ish of . . . and Weeton, and other lands which I hold by lease, xxvi<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup> each.

"The residue of my estate to be divided into 7 parts, viz., 2 parts to Roger, my son, and the other 5 parts to Alexander, son of Edward, and Jane, Alice, and Margaret, daughters of the said Edward, and Alexander, son of the said Roger.

"To Isabel, wyfe of Laurence Standish, yearly xx<sup>s</sup>. To the R<sup>t</sup> Hon. Lord Mr. Henry, Erle of Derby, £20. To the R<sup>t</sup> Hon. Lord Strange, his son, £10.

"To my cousin, Alexander Rygby, son of my brother John Rygby, x<sup>li</sup>. To every one of my servants, x<sup>d</sup>."

Edward Rigby, the eldest son of Alexander, was described as of Burgh, in the Visitation of Richard St. George, in 1613. He died before 17 Oct., 1629, that being the date of the *Inq. post.*



*mort.* taken at Lancaster before Hugh Rigby, Esq., escheator. He was at the time of his death seised in fee of the manor of Copull, the moiety of the manor of Chorley, a moiety of the wapentake of the Hundred of Leylandshire, a capital messuage called the Burgh in Duxbury, with 100 acres of land belonging thereto.

He also held [by lease] a capital messuage called the Hall of Laiton, the tithe of grain in Little Laiton, Great Laiton, Warbrecke, and Blackpool, two messuages, five cottages, in Laiton, Marton, and Warbrecke, belonging to the Hall of Laiton. Also a messuage called Broughton Hall, in Broughton-in-Furness. The moiety of the manor of Chorley and the lands there he held of the King for being bailiff of the Hundred of Leyland, as of the Duchy of Lancaster, by the 200th part of a knight's fee. Alexander Rigby, his son and heir, was, at the time of the taking of the Inquisition, 40 years old, and Dorothy, the widow, was living at Burgh Hall.<sup>1</sup> On the 12 Nov., 1604, Edward Rigby obtained a royal grant of the office of clerk of the peace for Lancashire, with survivorship to his eldest son.<sup>2</sup> He had issue : (1) Alexander, of whom hereafter ; (2) Hugh Rigby ; in 1608 he was at the University of Cambridge, where he took a degree ;<sup>3</sup> from college he went to Lincoln's Inn, London. In Dec., 1634, he was appointed Recorder of Liverpool on the resignation of Thomas Molyneux.<sup>4</sup> He lived at the Hutt, in the parish of Childwall (near Liverpool), and died in Sep., 1642 ; (3) Jane Rigby, married Roger Kirkbye of Kirkbye Ireleth in Furness ; (4) Alice ; (5) Margaret.

ALEXANDER RIGBY, the eldest son of Edward Rigby, appears to have been the first of the family who lived at Layton. He was born in or about 1589. In the year 1611, Roger Rigby (Alexander's uncle) exercised the office of clerk of the peace, but on the 11 Dec. in that year, Alexander obtained a grant for his

<sup>1</sup> Duchy Records, *Inq. post mort.*, vol. 26, No. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Palatine Note Book, iv. 143.

<sup>3</sup> University Register.

<sup>4</sup> Liverpool Municipal Records.

own and his son Edward's life. He was a staunch royalist, and took an active part in the Civil War. He was appointed as one of the collectors for the King's forces for the Hundred of Amounderness at a meeting held at Preston, 10 Dec., 1642, and was also one of the "commissioners of array," and in consequence was, in 1642, removed from the commission of the peace by order of Parliament, and in 1646 he compounded for his sequestered estates by the payment of £381 3s. 4d. He also lost his appointment as clerk of the peace, which office was declared, on 25 Feb., 1647-8, to be void by his delinquency.

Amongst his friends was Richard Brathwaite, the poet, who dedicated his "Two Lancashire Lovers," published in 1640, to "his truly generovs and Ivdicious friend, Alexander Rigby, Esq., Clarke of the Crown for the County Palatine of Lancaster." He married Catherine, the daughter of Sir Edward Brabazon of Nether Whitacre, in Warwickshire, knight. He died in Aug., 1650, and was buried at Standish church on the 26th. Letters of administration were granted in the Perogative Court of Canterbury to his son William. He had issue: (1) Edward, of whom hereafter; (2) Thomas Rigby, born 1612; M.A. St. John's college, Cambridge, vicar of Poulton, prebendary of Monmohenock, Ireland (see *History of Poulton*, p. 75); (3) William Rigby, a merchant of London; he was living in 1650; (4) Alexander died in infancy; (5) Hugh Rigby, educated at the Sedberg Grammar School, from whence he proceeded to St. John's College, Cambridge. He does not appear to have graduated. This is possibly the Hugh Rigby who was married by license, in November, 1661, to Ellinor Davies,<sup>1</sup> although not recorded in Dugdale's *Visitation*. His name appears in the Preston Guild Roll of 1642. (6) Mary, married at Bispham, 14 Nov., 1633, John, the son of Edward Moore of Bank Hall, in Lancashire. This John Moore was a prominent figure on the Parliamentary side of the Civil Wars, and he was one of those who signed the

<sup>1</sup> Faculty office, Doctor's Commons.



warrant for the execution of the King. He died about 1650, and had issue, two sons, Edward and Alexander, and a daughter, Jane. (See the *Moore Rental*, Chet. Soc., vol. xii.)

(7) Elizabeth Rigby married at Bispham, 4 May, 1633, Edward, the son of Edward Chisenhale of Chisenhale, in the county of Lancaster, and Margaret, his wife, daughter and heiress of Nicholas Worthington of Shevington. Edward Chisenhale, the younger, was one of the Countess of Derby's chaplains during the siege of Lathom House. He was present as a colonel at the battle of Marston Moor. He was the author of a work entitled *Catholic History*; he is also thought to have written the *Journal of the Siege of Lathom*. He was buried at Standish church, 24 April, 1653, where there is a tablet to his memory. He left issue.

(8) Jane Rigby, married the Rev. Paul Lathom, rector of Standish, who was ejected in 1662. He was for some time chaplain to Colonel Ashton of Middleton. Calamy says he was a man of "good ability, exemplary piety, and unwearied diligence in the ministry." He died in 1663, aged about 54.<sup>1</sup>

EDWARD RIGBY, the eldest son of Alexander Rigby, was born in 1609. He married, about the year 1630, Mary, the daughter of Edward Hyde of Norbury, in the county of Cheshire, Esq., who was a kinsman of Queen Anne.<sup>2</sup> Of this Edward Rigby very little is known; he lived at Layton, and died before his father. That he predeceased his father is clear, not only from the *Herald's Visitation* of 1664-5, but from the fact that his younger brother, William, administered to his father's estate. It is probable that he was slain in the civil war, and that the following graphic description refers to him:—

"And Wiggon being made a strong garrison, full of desperate cavaliers, and not above six miles from Boulton, therefore for feare

<sup>1</sup> Calamy's *Nonconformist's Memorials*, vol. ii. p. 106.

<sup>2</sup> Queen Anne was a grand-daughter of the Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, who was great-grandson of Robert Hyde of Norbury, through his second wife. Mary Hyde, who married Edward Rigby, descended from the same Robert by his first wife. (Ormerod's *History of Cheshire*, new edition.)

of the malice of Wiggon, Colonel Ashton of Midleton, that was the Parliament man for the county, laid companies in Boulton, and caused fortifications to be made, and kept it as a garrison. And Wiggon souldiers made divers fearse assaults against it with litle successe. The last they made was a very desperat one about the last week of lent, 1643. Divers souldiers from Wigan came up to the mood walls shotting disperatly, and were resisted manfully. At the last a son of Mr. Alex<sup>r</sup> Rigbie of Brugh (whether a captaine or souldier is uncertaine) mounted a mood wall, threwe himself over, crying 'a Towne, a Towne;' he, with some few as disperat as himself, was slayne, and the reste of the companie, being beaten off, returned to their garrison with disgrace."<sup>1</sup>

If this incident is correct, it is impossible to come to any other conclusion than that it refers to Alexander's eldest son. In the Preston Guild Roll of 1622, Edward Rigby's four brothers are named, *i.e.*, Thomas, William, Alexander, and Hugh. In the 1642 Roll the name of Alexander is left out, as he was no doubt dead. Thomas and William are known to have survived their father, and Hugh became a student at Cambridge, and in 1643 would be barely 21 years old; add to this that after this date no mention is anywhere to be found of the name of Edward Rigby of Layton. He had issue:

(1) Alexander, of whom hereafter; (2) Edward Rigby, was sent to London and apprenticed<sup>2</sup> to John Bent, a mercer (son of Richard Bent of Cosby, in Leicestershire, Esq.); his place of business was in Paternoster Row. In 1662 he was made free by his master, and about the year 1665 married Ann, the daughter of John Bent,<sup>3</sup> and afterwards established himself as a mercer<sup>4</sup> in Covent Garden, where his house became a rendezvous of

<sup>1</sup> *A Discourse of the Warr in Lancashire*, Chet. Soc. vol. xlii. p. 22.

<sup>2</sup> Merchant Taylors' Company's Registers.

<sup>3</sup> Ann Bent was baptized at St. Faith's, London, 9 April, 1649.

<sup>4</sup> In Preston Guild Roll, 1682, he is called "merchant taylor."



Jacobites in 1690.<sup>1</sup> He appears to have been successful in business, as he purchased Mistley Hall in Essex (near Manningtree). He was buried at St. Faith's, under St. Paul's, London, 1 March, 1710-11. His will was proved 7th March, and in it he is described as of St. Andrew's, Holborn. He had issue: Edward, buried at St. Faith's, London, 11 Aug., 1699; John and Robert, who were living in 1682; Richard, who married . . . Pelly, and to whom descended Mistley Hall; at the time of his father's death he was in Jamaica; he had issue, a son Richard (who was a privy councillor and master of the rolls in Ireland), and two daughters; Alexander buried at St. Faith's, 7 Feb., 1697; James, was living in 1710-11; Mary, married John Ashton of Penketh, in the parish of Prescott, county of Lancaster, who held several court offices under the Stuarts, and was executed for high treason in 1690-1;<sup>2</sup> Susan, Ann Katherine and Elizabeth; (3) William,<sup>3</sup> (4) Hamlet, (5) Robert, (6) Richard, (7) Mary, (8) Dorothy.

ALEXANDER RIGBY, the eldest son of Edward Rigby, was born in 1633 or 1634. Before he attained his majority he was a cornet in the royalist forces, and served under Sir Thomas Tyldesley, who was slain at Wigan, Lancashire, 25 Aug., 1651, and to whose memory he (in 1679) erected a monumental pillar on the spot where the royalist commander fell.<sup>4</sup> He married Ann, the daughter of Thomas Birch of Birch Hall, near Manchester. In 1682 he was a justice of the peace for the county, and was afterwards a deputy-lieutenant; in 1678-9 he was high sheriff of Lancashire. He died in 1685, and in that year an administration bond was filed at Richmond. He had issue: (1) Edward, who

<sup>1</sup> *State Trials*: "Trial of John Ashton."

<sup>2</sup> *State Trials*, vol. iii. John Ashton had issue James, died s.p., and Mary, who married R. Venn, one of whose descendents is Dr. Venn of Cambridge.

<sup>3</sup> This and the following names of the children of Edward Rigby are given on the authority of the Visitation of 1664-5.

<sup>4</sup> See Baines' *Hist. Lanc.*, vol. xi. p. 180, edit. 1870.

was born in 1658,<sup>1</sup> and was living in 1682; (2) Thomas, buried at Poulton, 1 July, 1660; (3) Alexander, of whom hereafter; (4) Richard, buried at Poulton, 14 May, 1674; (5) Charles, alive in 1682, died s.p.; (6) Hugh, living in 1682, died without issue; (7) Henry, baptized at Poulton, 1 Jan., 1672-3, died s.p.; (8) Mary, who married Thomas, son of Sir Thomas Tyldesley of Tyldesley, who in June, 1720, was a widow living at Lancaster;<sup>2</sup> she is said to have died at Lorient in Brittany, without issue; (9) Elizabeth, married . . . Colley; in June, 1720, she was a widow, and was living at Lorient in Brittany;<sup>3</sup> (10) Elleanor, of whom nothing is known.

ALEXANDER, the second son of Alexander Rigby of Layton, was born about the year 1663.<sup>4</sup> Of his early life little is known. When quite a young man he travelled in France, Germany, Italy, Spain, and Turkey, and shortly before 1690 he was for a few years a partner in trade with Sir Lambert Blackwell<sup>5</sup> at Leghorn. This commercial undertaking proved a success,<sup>6</sup> and returning to England he was married at Westminster Abbey on 6 Feb., 1689-90, to Susanna, the daughter of Peter Calvert of Nine Ashes, Hunsdon, co. Herts. By the marriage and by trade he amassed about £10,000, independent of the Lancashire estates. Shortly after his marriage he was for a time at Layton Hall, and served the office of high sheriff of the county in 1691. In the year following Layton Hall was to let, and Rigby was living in London. In 1693 he built a house in Poulton market place, and probably occasionally lived there; on the front of this building is the date of its erection, and the arms of the Rigby family. It appears that James Baines, the founder of

<sup>1</sup> Possibly this may be the "Mr. *Edmund* Rigby of Poulton, gentleman," who was buried at Poulton in Nov., 1698.

<sup>2</sup> In Indenture dated 23 June, 1720, she is so described.

<sup>3</sup> In Indenture dated 23 June, 1720, she is so described. (Deed in possession of Richard Pedder, Esq.)

<sup>4</sup> The Preston Guild Roll, 1662, only mentions Edward, the son of Alexander.

<sup>5</sup> Some time envoy at the Court of Florence.

<sup>6</sup> The case of Sir Alexander Rigby, &c. (see p. 102).



several Poulton charities, had some thoughts of going to live at Layton, and to him Alexander Rigby wrote the following letter :—

“London-y<sup>e</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup>. 1692.

Mr. Baines

I am glad to understand from Mr. Patteson your resolveing to build on my Land. He tells me you designe three p'ticcular lives in your Lease, and that upon decease of the first (if it happens in yo<sup>r</sup> time) that is the first of the three, you desire in the roome of said life to have your owne put in. I no sooner read the proposale, but I resolved to grant it, and Mr. Baines shall experience this is but a beginning to the many good offices I designe him, since 'is so kind as to settle on my premisses, and by his example encourage others to build, and cause y<sup>e</sup> towne to flourish, besides if [you] resolve upon Liueing at Laton the thoughts of having so ingenious and otherwise deserveing a p'son is a pleasure to me, in a word Sr I delight to oblige you as experience will further Demonstrate, when occasion offers. Interime, I begg you to believe that I am Sr your most hum. serv<sup>t</sup>. Alexand. Rigby.”

The letter is directed :—

“For

Mr James Baines

Merchant

N<sup>r</sup> Poulton

Lancashire.”<sup>1</sup>

Shortly before this time Alexander Rigby again embarked in trade, which for a few years turned out so successful that on the 28 Nov., 1695, he was knighted. The history of Rigby's second commercial transaction is given at great length in a scarce print entitled “The case of Sir Alexander Rigby, William Shepard, and William Plowman, setting forth the Damages they have

<sup>1</sup> Original letter in possession of William Dickson, Esq., of Preston.

suffer'd by the imprisonment of William Plowman; seizure of their effects, and other proceedings of the Grand Duke of Tuscany."<sup>1</sup> It appears that on 29 Nov., 1690, Rigby, Shepard, and Plowman entered into a co-partnership for establishing a house of trade in Leghorn. The partnership was to be for five years. Rigby was to manage the London part of the business, and the two other partners the Leghorn part. The partners were each to contribute 13,500 dollars, which was then valued at £3,000. The firm was to be called "Rigby, Shepard and Company." Power to sign letters and contracts was given to Shepard, who was to "have the counsel and consent" of William Plowman in "matters of moment," but in special enterprises Rigby's counsel was also to be obtained. In a short time the success of the company was such that it was esteemed the most flourishing house in Italy, which did a large business in England and in foreign parts.

The directors of the bank of England appointed the firm as their correspondents at Leghorn, and several eminent London merchants as sureties entered into bonds with Sir Alexander Rigby for £20,000 in favour of the bank.

In 18 months they bought and sold goods of the aggregate value of £132,428.

This house of Rigby, Shepard and Company prevented the French, Florentines, and Venetians from introducing their woollen goods into the Levant by supplying the Turks with the products of England "at particular men's risques by nimble ships." They were the first to start galleys, which were well armed and manned.

In the early part of 1696 coffee became very scarce, and consequently very dear. This firm received advices that a great quantity was to be had at Cairo at such a price as to yield a large profit; and having also in view the conclusion of a treaty with the Bey of Tunis for all the corn exportable from Cape

<sup>1</sup> London, printed in the year MDCCI., fol., 112pp.



Negro, they at once fitted out three ships to carry 46 guns and 350 men.

On the 22 April, 1696, these vessels sailed from Leghorn, William Plowman, one of the partners, going on board one of them during the voyage there and back. They attacked, and in turn were attacked, by several French ships, one of which they captured, and thus brought upon themselves the displeasure of the Pope and the Great Duke of Tuscany, and when William Plowman arrived at Rome about the 20 Jan., 1696-7, he was "after a most ignominious manner seized by the *Shirri* (vulgarly called thief-catchers), and being fettered and chained, he was hurry'd to a dungeon," and charged with being a pirate, and having made prizes of several French ships. His defence was that he was an English subject, and was a passenger only on the ship "'Philip and Mary' commanded by Captain John Brome, who, under English colours, had always fought the enemy."

From Rome he was removed to Florence (in fact, handed over by the Pope to the Duke of Tuscany), where he remained in a dungeon for thirty-two months. Before his release (in Oct., 1699,) he was compelled to sign an agreement to pay 60,000 French livres. The payment of this sum and the long imprisonment of Plowman brought about the ruin of the company, and its downfall involved Alexander Rigby in the pecuniary difficulties from which he was never able to extricate himself. After many vain efforts to obtain redress, his creditors becoming pressing, he was cast into the Fleet prison about the year 1713.

A petition, dated 18 Aug., 1715, was presented to the House of Commons, setting forth the losses and troubles which he had gone through in connection with the imprisonment of his partner, and praying for leave for a clause for his relief to be inscribed in a bill about to be brought before the house for the relief of insolvent soldiers and seamen. Permission was granted, but for some reason it does not appear to have been rendered effective. In the same year an Act of Parliament was brought in, entitled "An Act to Discharge Sir Alexander Rigby, knight, from his

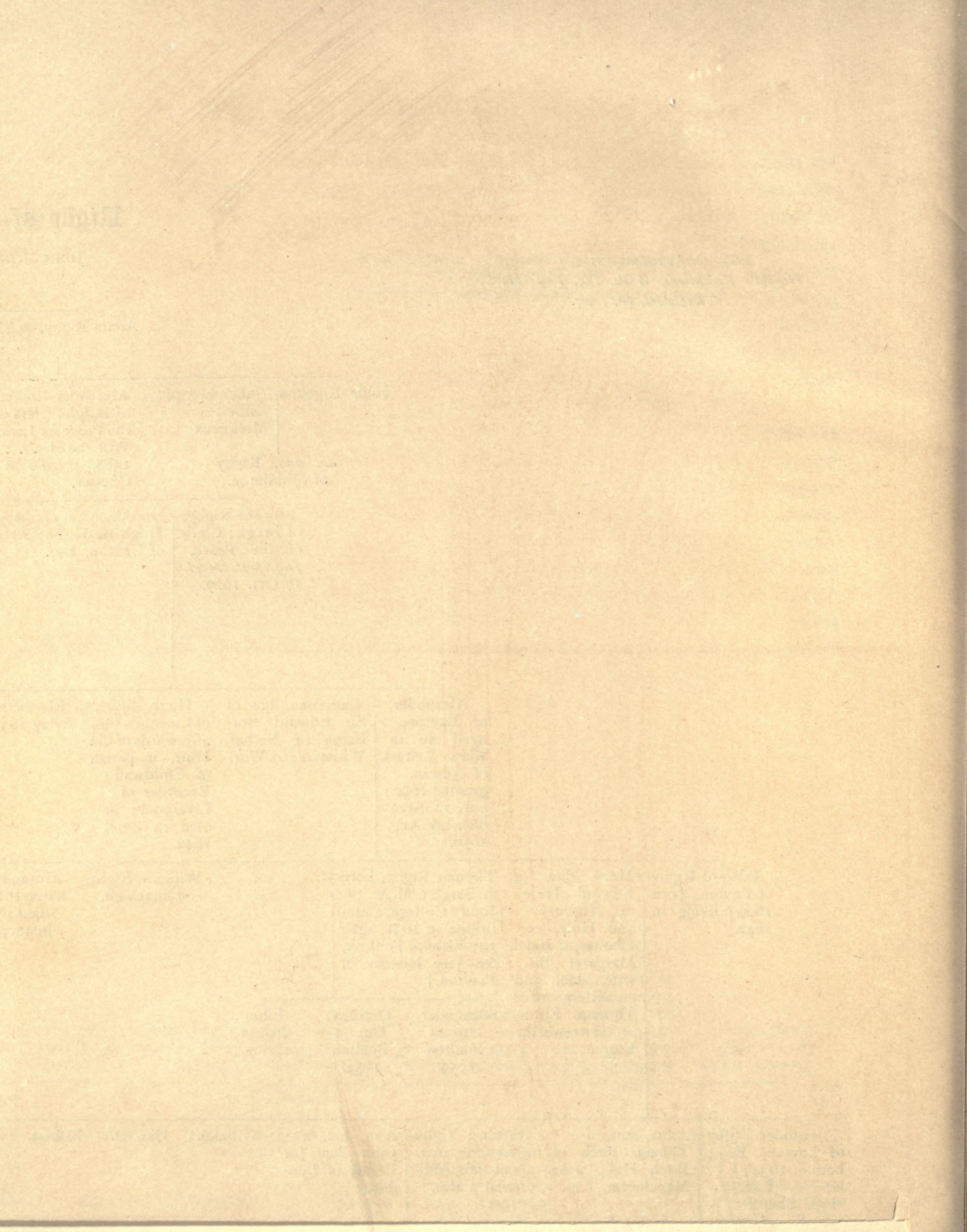
imprisonment, and to vest his estates and effects in trustees for the benefit of creditors." The preamble set forth that Sir Alexander, "a dutiful and loyal subject, formerly a merchant of London, and concerned with William Plowman, a late flourishing house or co-partnership at Leghorn, but by means of the known oppression of some powers in favour of the late French king during the late wars, was reduced to a low and perplexed condition, and after many long fruitless labours and expenses for reparation now and for above three years last past was a prisoner for debt in the prison of the Fleet."

The petition then declares that the "said afflicted supplicant is willing and desirous to divest himself of all his estate and effects (except his and his wife's wearing apparel and necessary bedding and household goods for himself and family not exceeding the value of £60);" it is therefore proposed that his estate should be vested in trustees for the benefit of his creditors, and that he should obtain his "liberty for the recovery of his health and capacitating himself to use a just industry to provide the best he can the small remainder of his life for himself and family." Another clause in the bill provides "that it shall be lawful for any two judges of the court at Westminster, upon the petition of Sir Alexander Rigby, to issue their warrant to the warder or keeper of the said prison to bring him (the said Sir Alexander) before the said judges," who were to require from him a schedule of effects and estate, real and personal, and also to administer to him on oath to the effect that the schedule was correct, and that since 23 Oct., 1712 (or before), he had not granted or conveyed any of the effects or estate to any person in trust with intent to defraud his creditors.

This being all completed, the petitioner was to be set at liberty. His estate was to be vested in Simon Aris, Thomas Browne, Maurice Kellett, Thomas Allen, and Charles Bateman. As to the "manor house of Layton Hall and divers lands, messuages, tenements, and tithes in Layton, Great Layton, Little Layton, Warbreck and Poole, and elsewhere, in the county of Lancaster



Hera





part of the estate of the said Sir Alexander," it appeared that by deed, dated 15 July, 1682, these had been granted to Sir Clement Cottrell, knt., and John Dormer, Esq., as security for the payment of a large sum of money due to them. It was therefore decided that their claim should stand as a first charge on the entire estate. Notwithstanding the passing of this bill, the release of the prisoner did not follow, as on the 20 April, 1717, Sir Alexander died in the Fleet, and the parish registers of St. Bride's contain a memorandum that a certificate was granted to his friends for the removal of his body. It is uncertain whether or not he left issue, but the expression in the petition, "for himself and family," makes it probable that he had children then living.

After the death of Sir Alexander Rigby his estates in Lancashire were, by the trustees, by deed dated 28 June, 1720, conveyed to Hugh Mills of New Inn, London, gentleman, to hold in trust, and he re-leased the same to William Clayton of Adlington, in the county of Lancaster, Esq.; and by indenture, dated 1 Feb., 1736, Richard Clayton of Adlington, Esq., conveyed Layton Hall to the Rt. Hon. Richard Lord Viscount Molyneux of Maryburgh in Ireland, Alexander Osbaldeston, and Banastre Parker of Cuerdon, in the county of Lancaster, Esq., in trust for Thomas Clifton, Esq., to whom, on 4 Aug., 1752, the estate was formally conveyed.<sup>1</sup> The Clifton family in 1841 also acquired the manor of Laton (see p. 7).

Layton Hall is now a farm-house, but nothing remains of the ancient structure except the two large gate posts.

#### FOX HALL.

This house is not so old as has been generally supposed. It was erected by Edward Tyldesley of Morley (the son of Sir Thomas Tyldesley, slain at Wigan, Lancashire, in 1651) in the time of Charles II. It was originally a small three-gabled

<sup>1</sup> Title deed.

building, with a small tower at one side of it. The walls were made of sea-shore cobble stones, and were of great thickness. Over the main entrance was engraved "Seris factura nepotibus," a motto which Edward Tyldesley expected would be his own, as his name was down on the list of "Knights of the Royal Oak," which Charles II. at one time proposed to create as a means of rewarding the faithful supporters of the Stuarts. Over the south gateway was inserted a stone on which was chiselled a pelican feeding her young, round which was inscribed "Tantum valet amor regiæ et patriæ."<sup>1</sup> Inside the hall was a priest's hiding place, long known as the "king's cupboard," tradition saying that it was erected for King James (who, however, never came there) during the plots of 1690 and 1694. During the rebellion of 1715 Fox Hall was a private rendezvous for Popish recusants.

Hutton, in his *History of Blackpool*,<sup>2</sup> calls this place "Vauxhall," which Peter Whittle, in his "Marina,"<sup>3</sup> repeats, both writers being misled by that most inaccurate historian, Charles Leigh, who not only asserts that "Vauxhall" is correct, but adds that it was so "titled by Sir Thomas Tyldesley after one of the family connexions, the 'De Vaux's,' who intermarried with the Tyldesley's." Sir Thomas was certainly dead before Fox Hall was built, and there is no evidence whatever that a Tildesley married a Vaux; and it is beyond dispute that the Edward Tyldesley, the builder of it, always called it Fox Hall. Fox Hall is now used as a public house, and much of the original building has disappeared.

Edward Tyldesley (son of Sir Thomas) of the Morleys, Myerscough, and Fox Hall, was born in 1635. In 1649 he went to Douay intending to become a priest, but he relinquished the idea, and returned to England in 1654.<sup>4</sup> He was twice married, first to Anne, the daughter of Sir Thomas Fleetwood of Colwich,

<sup>1</sup> A sketch of this is in *The Tyldesley Diary*, p. 58.

<sup>2</sup> *History of Blackpool*, 1804, p. 36.

<sup>3</sup> "Marina," *History of Blackpool*, p. 6, 1831.

<sup>4</sup> *Douay Diary MSS.*



co. Stafford, and had issue, of whom hereafter; second, to Elizabeth, daughter of Adam Beaumont of Whiteley, Esq., by whom he had issue a daughter, Catherine. Edward Tyldesley died about the year 1675 (his will being dated 26 Aug. in that year). By his first wife he had issue: (1) Thomas Tildesley, of whom hereafter; (2) Edward, (3) Frances, (4) Anna Maria.

Thomas Tyldesley of The Lodge, Myerscough, Fox Hall, and the Morleys, was born 3 April, 1657. He married, first, Eleanor, daughter of Thomas Holcroft of Holcroft, Esq., and second, Agatha [?], daughter of William Winckley of Banister Hall. He died in Jan., 1715, and was buried at Garstang on the 26th of that month. He had issue: by his first wife, Edward, of whom hereafter; Thomas Holcroft, Fleetwood; and four daughters, Frances, Elizabeth, Eleanor, and Mary; by his second wife a son, Charles, baptized at Bispham, 9 May, 1706, and two daughters, Agatha, married John Bleasdel of Goosnargh, and Winefrid, baptized at Bispham, 8 Oct., 1702. He appears to have involved himself in pecuniary difficulties; he sold a great part of the family acres, and like so many of his co-temporaries, he gave way to habits of intemperance. The following extracts from his diary, and letters from him and his son, will illustrate the manner of life he lived:—

DIARY.<sup>1</sup>

1712.

May 8. Alday att Fox Hall; p<sup>d</sup> 6*d*. pro milke and butter pro man and mee.

May 9. Almorning at Ffox Hall, busy gardening. About 6 went to Carlton and Polton. Spent with Dick Kellett at Tom Cartmell's 4*d*.; soe to Fox Hall.

May 10. Alday att Fox Hall, busy in my garden. P<sup>d</sup> Will, the Maynes gardener, pro three days, 1*s*. 6*d*.; soe I went to bedd.

<sup>1</sup> *Tyldesley Diary*, edited by J. Gillow and A. Hewitson.

May 11. Left Fox Hall about 5 in the morning; pray<sup>r</sup> and dined at Thurnham; thence to Lanc<sup>r</sup>; on my way spent 6*d*. with Will, the fowler at y<sup>e</sup> Cockes; soe home.

May 12. After din<sup>r</sup> spent 6*d*. with Bro<sup>r</sup> Penington and Ducke Penny, and about 7 set fforwards for Fox Hall.

May 31. Went to y<sup>e</sup> Hays<sup>t</sup> to see a race betwixt Mr. Harper's mare and Saderson's; meet a greatt deall of good company, but spent noe thing, my coz., W. W., with me, who had been all night with me; after y<sup>e</sup> race went to Litham; stayed there two hours; thence backe to Fox Hall.

June 17. Alday at Fox Hall till the eivening, when sist<sup>r</sup> and M<sup>rs</sup> about 4 went to wate on my Lady Peters,<sup>2</sup> and I went to Rog<sup>rs</sup> to meet my Lord and company about messuring y<sup>e</sup> horses to run next day . . . soe to Fox Hall; gave M<sup>rs</sup> 2*s*. to bye provision with.

June 18. Went to Litham to dinner; thence to the raice; won 10*s*. of Sir Francis Andrews, but Jem Singleton treated all, soe I spent nothing. . . . Will Hesketh and M<sup>r</sup> Whittingham went with mee to Fox Hall, and stayed till 12.

June 21. Pd pro Warbreck great tax.

July 4. Alday in the house at Fox Hall; gave Laurence 1*s*. to get the horse shoed.

July 5. Alday till evening at Ffox Hall: then went over the commone to see my L<sup>ds</sup> mare and S<sup>r</sup> ffrancis' gelding, but a shower of raine drove me home.

July 8. . . . soe to Fox Hall. . . . I set Staining tyeth to Barton po 72 and three sives of oats per annum for three years; received from him five pounds; soe to bed.

Sep. 2. . . . so home to Fox Hall.

Sep. 3. Pd 2*s*. pro butt<sup>r</sup> to Sara; 6*d*. pro a day's thatching; gave Sara 6*d*. pro her boy to gett me crabes, and 1*s*. pro her paines; thence to Lan<sup>r</sup>; meete the sheriff, and went with him to meet y<sup>e</sup> judge; suped with him that night.

<sup>1</sup> Layton Hawes.

<sup>2</sup> Lord and Lady Petre, no doubt staying with Thomas Clifton of Lytham.



Sep. 11, Almorning at Fox Hall with Samy Butler a fflowling; about noone Cap<sup>n</sup> Veale came and dined with us, where we were very merry over one bottle claret and two off sherry.

1713.

Sep. 14. Went aff<sup>r</sup> din<sup>r</sup> to Fox Hall. Pd 6*d*. ffor boating att Sharde; saw y<sup>e</sup> ferry men carry out off y<sup>e</sup> boat a Scot and his pack, a sight I never saw beffor, being 56 years of age.

1714.

April 19. Went to Fox Hall; found three men working in y<sup>e</sup> garden besides Rob<sup>t</sup> Cardwell; all day and all night there; p<sup>d</sup> Clege and Laurence Bamb<sup>r</sup> 1*s*. 4*d*. pro work, and p<sup>d</sup> 1*d*. pro tobacco.

June 10. [At Fox Hall.] Gave Jo<sup>n</sup> Mally and Jo. Parkinson 1*s*. to see y<sup>e</sup> cock ffeights; din<sup>d</sup> in the cockpitt with Mr. Clifton and others; spent in wine 6*d*., and pro din<sup>r</sup> 1*s*.; gave y<sup>e</sup> fidler 6*d*.; spent in the pitt betwixt battles 6*d*.; I won near 30*s*.; gave the feeder 1*s*.

July 21. Went early with M<sup>rs</sup> to Ffox Hall; din<sup>d</sup> at Tom Pickup's, but Dick Kellet p<sup>d</sup> all, and a new bargin for Carlton; I went to Whinny Heys and Bispham on Sara Roskeall account, and soe alnight with M<sup>rs</sup> to Roshall.

July 22. Alday till eivening at Roshall; then went to Cleveley's, signed articles with Dick and Adam Kellett pro Carlton 66 pounds and a windle of wheat yearly.

LETTERS.

Feby 3, 1704.

Mr. Norris,  
Merchant.  
Worthy Sir,

The obligations I've alreddy received are so great, that if necessity did not absolutely force me to beg a farther kindness, I durst not have presumed it. Sir, my condition at this time is so bad that my father is not in a capacity to



assist me, and my creditors will not have patience till we can dispose of our Estate; therefore I most earnestly request that y<sup>le</sup> be pleased to make the five pound you honoured me with the sum of twelve, for on Monday next I must either pay five and twenty pounds, which that will make up, or come both into disgrace and trouble. I would have waited on you myself but that I am forced to go to severall places, to get in this affair; if you please, I will send you a bond by the post, but I hope it wont be long before you may repay yourself. Since it is my misfortune to want moneys, I hope I sha'nt want a friend in you, which is no small satisfaction to him that will always profess himself.

Y<sup>r</sup> very obliged

And faithful Servant

Edwd. Tyldesley.

Preston, June 30, 1705.

<sup>1</sup> Hon<sup>rd</sup> Cosin

Yesterday wee all mett with M<sup>r</sup>. Atherton, and Those consarned, and haue Made A ffinal End off thatt affare, w<sup>ch</sup> would neuer haue harmed The estate, But to Make every-thing clear And ffree, wee haue Agreyed to pay £400, which may amountt to about £150 To Holcroffte, itt being the best partte off y<sup>e</sup> estates, m'gaged, Butt I know M<sup>r</sup> Blundell will giue y<sup>u</sup> A perticull<sup>r</sup> Accountt, therffor need nott giue y<sup>u</sup> the troble p lett<sup>r</sup>. I hope now our business will bee speedly compleated, For all doubtts, shall bee remoued, with God<sup>s</sup> pmiti<sup>o</sup>n, and therfor will send M<sup>r</sup> Patteson ouer when euer y<sup>u</sup> please to command, For M<sup>r</sup> Blundell will acquaint y<sup>u</sup> that we are as desirous and y<sup>u</sup> can bee to Haue The Matter Compleated.

I am to meett the Remand<sup>r</sup> off the Gentlemen consarned, about the £400 att Leigh Next wedensduy come seuen Nightt, where iff y<sup>u</sup> please or Thinke itt proper to send M<sup>r</sup> Green I shall

\* Never printed before. Norris MSS. in possession of the Liverpool Corporation.



bee redy to observe what y<sup>r</sup> solicer, would have don—or iff y<sup>u</sup>  
Haue A desire ffor mee to Meett y<sup>u</sup> any where itt shall bee redily  
oerved by

Dear S<sup>r</sup>

Y<sup>r</sup> affectt. kindsman

and Most Humble

oblidged servantt

Tom<sup>s</sup> Tyldesley.

I pray y<sup>u</sup> make my true service and Cordiall respects accept-  
able to my worthy Cosin Esq<sup>r</sup> and his Good Fire side :

I longe to come to Leverpole to show y<sup>u</sup> how soub<sup>r</sup> I am ffor  
I haue left of Drinking.

The Hon<sup>ed</sup> Richard Norris

Marchantt

att

His house in Leuerpole.<sup>1</sup>

p<sup>d</sup> 2<sup>d</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Fox Hall

Aug. 8, 1705.

Dear Kinsman

Mr Patteson Telling me y<sup>u</sup> desined For London  
the Begining off this mot<sup>s</sup> giues y<sup>u</sup> the Troble off this to bege y<sup>r</sup>  
Fauor off Two words beffor y<sup>r</sup> Journey ffer now thanke God wee  
haue brought all Difficultys to soe much a conclusion off sirtanty  
that euery thing must noue to content, theroffer. I haue a great  
desire to kiss y<sup>r</sup> hand beffor y<sup>r</sup> journey w<sup>ch</sup> I promiss my selfe  
the satisfaction off, and doe proposse Halsall as the nearest place  
for y<sup>u</sup> and much nearer to mee than Ormskirke. Now as to the  
day that must sutte with your conuence, and therefore Saturday,  
Munday or Tusday will be the same to mee you know, the  
T[*MS. torn*] and therefore nedd not ffixe the time butt [*MS. torn*]

<sup>1</sup> Seal : an Eagle with wings expanded.

<sup>2</sup> Never printed before. The Norris *MSS.* in possession of Liverpool Corporation.



toogath<sup>rs</sup> may be well enough chatte ffor 2 howers and soe parte  
ffor wee may easilly each ride home afterwards and if my Cosin  
Squier would come along w<sup>th</sup> y<sup>u</sup> I should be very proude off his  
acceptable Company w<sup>es</sup> with my humble service to y<sup>u</sup> both  
concluds this

From Dear Sir  
Y<sup>rs</sup> most assured  
Humble servant  
& affect<sup>t</sup> kinsman  
to command  
Tom<sup>s</sup> Tysdesley.

To the Hon<sup>ed</sup> Richard Norris  
Marcharntt  
att his house  
Leverpoole  
present these.

---

Fox Hall, Sept<sup>r</sup> 11, 1705.

The Honoured Richard Norris,  
Merchant.

Sir,

I understand by my son, that your counsel makes some  
stop in our business, and would object that the partition is not  
good, though confirmed by fine and recovery from all the parties,  
which was at first a surprize to me. Because if this bargain of  
yours and mine should go off, you cannot imagine the great  
prejudice it might happen to do us both—too long for this piece  
of paper to insert—as some of our particler friends have already  
tould me; for had it been but a month's discourse, it might have  
been no such disadvantage to either of us, but being confirmed  
by both of us that the bargain was concluded, it will, I do assure  
you, cast no small reflection on you, nor be no little blot on my  
Estate, which I could much wish to the contrary, and therefore  
be so kind to yourself and me as to let your Counsellor, Mr.



How, and mine, meet together to argue the point thoroughly, and digest every bit of the obstacle, that all things may be healed. For I have so true a service for you that I would not for a brace of £100, for your partiklar sake, this bargain should not succeed, besides my own misfortune will be great. Therefore I hope my son and his friend will soon concert matters with you, that all will be done according to honor, and suffice who am, &c.

Tom<sup>s</sup> Tyldesley.

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<sup>1</sup> Foxhall, Oct. 6, 1705.

Dear Sir.

Its now about 6 wickes since I giue y<sup>u</sup> the Troble off A lett<sup>r</sup> by my sons hand<sup>s</sup> and haue nott as yet received one Line in ans<sup>r</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> makes mee very much to wond<sup>r</sup> att, itt being I am sure itt<sup>s</sup> A discreditt to you and noe small prejudys to mee, ffor y<sup>u</sup> may bee assured euery Body giues theyr discant<sup>s</sup>, on our transactions and some says that iff y<sup>u</sup> had had monys the bargain would haue been concluded. Oth<sup>rs</sup> say y<sup>u</sup> my son and I cannot conclude our settl<sup>mts</sup> and 40 oth<sup>hr</sup> storrey. Therefore I make it my request that I may know y<sup>r</sup> resolution ffor these delays are net<sup>hr</sup> Honu<sup>le</sup> to y<sup>u</sup> nor advantageous to mee and my ffamuly after almost a whole year entering into a bargain that all our friends knowe off. If anything of consequence Hind<sup>r</sup> the matt<sup>r</sup> lett us joyne and haue the best counsell off England and according as that is determined let the matter be desded ffor that is the just way ffor bot<sup>hs</sup> sides all shall always be desired

by Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> affec. kindsman

& Humble Servant

Tom<sup>s</sup> Tyldesley.

If you please to direct to mee att Fox hall Preston Bage,<sup>2</sup> Lancashire.

To Mr Richard Norris Marchant at Aixs in Aldermans Burry London.

<sup>1</sup> Never printed before. The Norris MSS. in possession of Liverpool Corporation.

<sup>2</sup> The Preston post bag is meant.



Dec<sup>r</sup> the 24<sup>th</sup>.

Alderman Norris,

Worthy Sir,

Necessity obliges me to have recourse to my friends, for my father being in a passion at some people of the Inn, went out of Town last night, after two o'clock, and has left me bare of moneys, which makes me humbly beg you will be pleased to lend a couple of guineas, which will be an extreme obligation to him who will ever show himself your thankful humble servant,

Edw<sup>d</sup> Tildesley.

I have sent my servant, and desire your favor and secrecy.

Edward Tyldesley (the eldest son of the diarist) in 1717 was living at Wavertree in Lancashire. He joined the cause of the rebellion, and raised a troop, which he commanded. He was tried in London before the court of admiralty in the Marshalsea for rebellion; he pleaded that he had been forced into the Jacobite insurrection; and the jury acquitted him, for which they were reprimanded by the judge.<sup>1</sup> He died in July, 1736. He had issue, a son, James, who served in the army of Prince Charles Edward in 1745; he died in Aug., 1765; his will was proved at Chester, 23 April, 1768. He had issue four sons, Thomas, Charles, James, Edward, and a daughter, Jane.

#### THE PATRICKS OF BISPHAM.

A family of this name were landowners here in the 16th century. John Patricke paid subsidy for lands in Bispham in 1580-1 (see p. 4). Richard Patrick of Bispham was, on 6 Nov., 1589, admitted a sizar at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, being then aged 16 years, and having previously been educated by "Magistro Harison."<sup>2</sup> Another of the family, Robert Patrick,

<sup>1</sup> Chet. Soc., vol. v. p. 221.

<sup>2</sup> College books.



was granted a pardon, dated 23 Feb., 1591-2, for having killed one Nicholas Rofton.<sup>1</sup> Perhaps the last of the family who lived in the parish was Thomas Patrick, whose will was proved at Richmond in 1618.

#### THE SINGLETONS OF THE KNOWL.

For something like two centuries a branch of the Singleton family lived at the Knowl. Although it is probable that they were an offshoot of the Singletons of Staining, there is no evidence to prove the connection. A John Singleton, jun., of the Knowl, had a son baptized in 1602. Thomas of the Knowl had several children born there (1635 to 1651), and in 1640 a John Singleton also lived there. Thomas, the son of the latter, was living here in the beginning of the next century.

From a deed of settlement dated 11 Feb., 1613, it appears that John Bispham of Bispham, on the intended marriage of his daughter Ellen, with George, the son of John Singleton of the Knowl, yeoman, conveyed certain lands in Bispham to George Singleton.<sup>2</sup>

#### THE ANYON FAMILY.

This is another old Bispham family.<sup>3</sup> In the Subsidy Roll of 1580-81 appears the name of John Anyon of Laton, who was taxed for viii x<sup>s</sup> (see p. 4). This was probably the John Anyon who died 5 Dec., 1609, and from whose *Inq. Post. Mort.* it appears that he held a messuage, 16 acres of land, 4 acres of meadow, 8 acres of pasture, 60 acres of moor, and 20 acres of moss in Warbreck, his son and heir being John Anyon, then aged 22.<sup>4</sup>

A Richard Anyon, whose will was dated 9 June, 1560 (see p. 121), left a son, William.

<sup>1</sup> State Papers, Dom. Ser. Temp. Eliz., ccxxxviii.

<sup>2</sup> Church House Title Deeds.

<sup>3</sup> A John Anyon held Hayholme in Carleton in 1500 (see *Hist. of Poulton*, pp. 12, 127).

<sup>4</sup> Record Office, vol. xx. p. 55.

William Anyon of Carleton by his will, dated 26 May, 1611, desired to be buried in Bispham churchyard. He left issue four sons and one daughter, viz., Thomas, William, Richard, Peter, and Catherine.

Richard Anyon of Warbreck left a will, dated 31 May, 1627, in which he names his sons Rowland Anyon and Fleetwood Anyon, and his grand-daughter, Ellen, daughter of his son Rowland.

Rowland Anyon, the son of Richard, died about the year 1659.<sup>1</sup> He was a captain in the Parliamentary forces in the Civil Wars<sup>2</sup> (see *Hist. of Poulton*.)

#### THE BAMBER FAMILY.

The Bammers appeared in Poulton in the early part of the 16th century,<sup>3</sup> and towards the end of that century the family had become a very large one, with several branches in various parts of the parish. In 1562 a Thomas Bamber was living in Warbreck (see will of Letitia Davye). William Bamber in 1580 was a "presentor" for Bispham, and not appearing was fined xls (see p. 5). This may be presumed to be the same William Bamber who died at Layton 12 Oct., 1597. From the *Inquis. Post. Mort.* taken at Preston 12 Jan., 1608-9, it appears that he was a yeoman, and lived at "The Poole" in Layton. He was seised in fee of a messuage, 6 acres of land, 4 acres of meadow, 10 acres of pasture, and 40 acres of moor in Great Layton and Warbreck, with common of pasture in Layton Hawes, which he held of the King as of his duchy, and the 200th part of a knight's fee, and that they were worth 10s. a year.

His son and heir, Robert Bamber, at the time of his father's death was 37 years old and more.<sup>4</sup> Robert Bamber, who died 12 Dec., 1623, and was described as "of Warbrecke,

<sup>1</sup> Will proved in the Prerogative Court of Chancery.

<sup>2</sup> *Discourse of the Warr in Lancashire*, Chet. Soc. vol. lxii. pp. 26, 42.

<sup>3</sup> *Hist. of Poulton*, pp. 174, 176, 177.

<sup>4</sup> Duchy Records, vol. xx. No. 1 (see Lanc. and Ches. Rec. Soc. iii. 116).



gentleman," was probably the grandson of William Bamber. He held messuages and lands in Warbreck and Great Marton. William, his son and heir, was three years old 10 Nov., 1623.

Another of the Bispham branch was John Bamber, whose will, dated 12 Oct., 1596, was proved at Richmond. He left issue two sons, Robert and Richard, and a daughter, Alice. He had living a brother, Edmund Bamber. His wife survived him. (See extract of will, Chap. VII.)

In 1596 there was living in Great Bispham a Richard Bamber,<sup>1</sup> yeoman, to whom in that year John Hulton of Darley and John Hodgeson of Little Carleton, gentleman, granted a tenement and 10½ acres of land in Great Bispham, together with right of turbary on Marton Moss, to hold for ever of the chief lord (subject to a rental of 11s. a year) from and after the feast of the Purification of the Virgin Mary, 1602.<sup>2</sup>

This Richard Bamber died in 1638 [buried 18 Feb.] seised of the above-mentioned lands,<sup>3</sup> his son and heir being John Bamber, who was then aged over 35 years. His widow (Ellen) survived him. John Bamber, the son of Richard, removed to Lytham, and died before 29 Aug., 1649, Robert Bamber of Great Bispham, yeoman, being his heir, who by deed of that date conveyed the 10½ acres in Great Bispham to Robert Bamber, the son of William Bamber, of Blackpool, yeoman.

Another Richard Bamber, yeoman, died at Layton 3 Dec., 1609, seised in fee of 20 acres of land, 40 acres of moor, and 20 acres of moss in Great Layton, which he held of the King by knight's service, and which were of the clear annual value of 6s. 8d. John Bamber, his son and heir, was then 47 years old.<sup>4</sup>

The number of Bambers whose names at this time (17th century) appear in the parish registers, make these records almost useless for geneological purposes; but from wills or

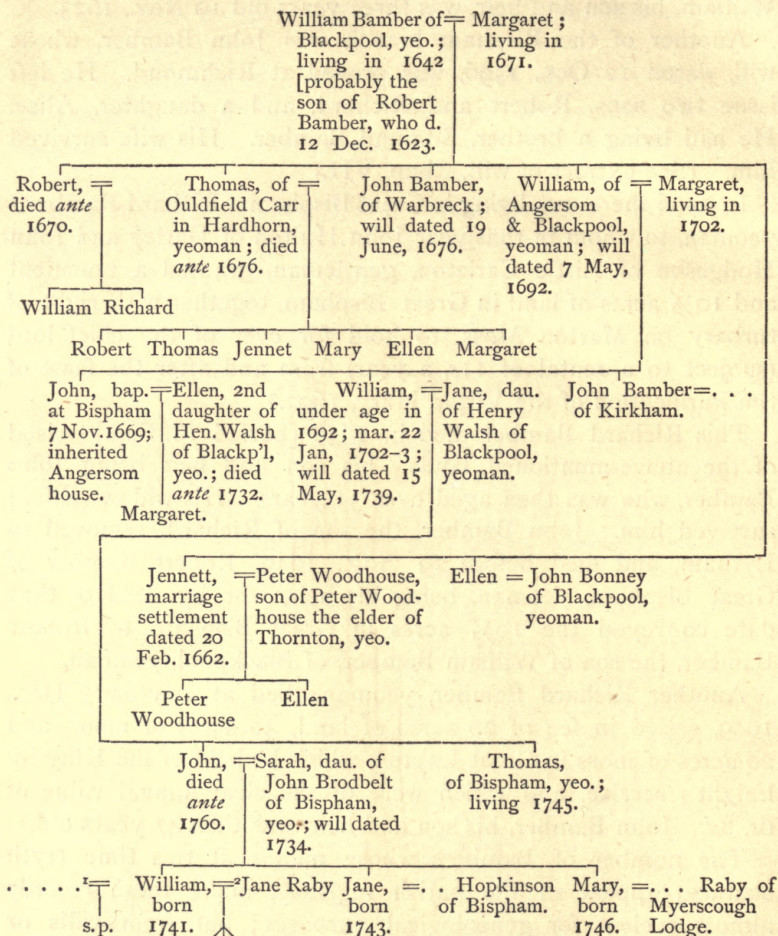
<sup>1</sup> A Richard Bamber, husbandman, lived at Warbreck in 1587 (see his will p. 122).

<sup>2</sup> Bamber deeds in possession of Mr. W. Asburn, Manchester.

<sup>3</sup> *Inq. Post. Mort.* vol. xxx. No. 85.

<sup>4</sup> *Inq. Post. Mort.* vol. xx. No. 26.

family papers the following pedigree, though imperfect, may be accepted as proved :—



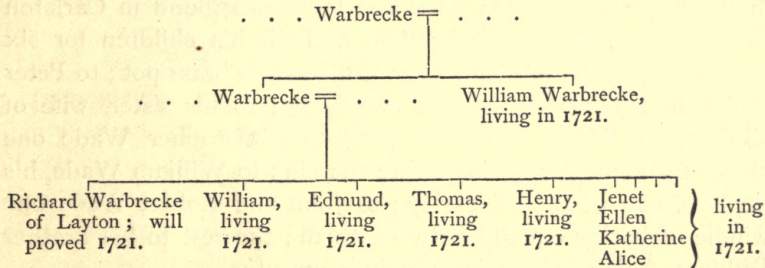
The last named William Bamber removed from Bispham to Great Eccleston, where he died in 1824, aged 82; was twice married; by the first wife he had no issue; by the second he had John, Henry, William, Thomas, Robert, Jane, Sarah, and



Mary. Of these John, Thomas, and Robert died without issue; the other sons left issue, some of whom are still living. Of the daughters, Jane married Mr. John Crook of Preston, whose son, Thomas Bamber Crook, inherited the estate of Thomas Bamber; Sarah married Mr. Joseph Parkinson of Blackburn, and had issue.<sup>1</sup>

### THE WARBRECKE FAMILY.

In the 16th century (or earlier) a family of this name was settled in Great Layton, one of which was Henry Warbrecke, whose will dated 4 Jan. 1580, was proved at Richmond [see page 125]. He left two daughters and a son, William, who was living in 1607, when he was described in the will of his son, Henry Warbrecke, as of "Laton, yeoman." This son died without issue, his wife, Alice, surviving him. The will of Richard Warbrecke of Layton, which was proved in 1721, furnishes the following descent:—



Of this family was John Warbreck of Warbreck, yeoman, whose son Richard was baptized at Bispham 8 Sep. 1728. He was twice married, first to Elizabeth . . . who died in 1768, and by whom he had several sons and daughters, and second, to Elizabeth, daughter of James Fishwick of Bulsnape Hall in Goosnargh, gentleman. By this marriage there was no issue. He died 6 April 1777.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> One of her daughters (Ellen) married Mr. William Asburn of Manchester.

<sup>2</sup> A tombstone in Poulton churchyard records the burials of this Richard Warbreck and his family.

## CHAPTER VII.

## MISCELLANY.

## SIXTEENTH CENTURY BISPHAM WILLS.

NOT half a dozen of these wills have been preserved, nearly all the early Amounderness wills having been long lost.<sup>1</sup> Amongst the abstracts of Lancashire wills proved at Richmond, and now deposited in the British Museum,<sup>2</sup> there are only six which can be identified as belonging to Bispham.

\*WILL OF JOHN ANION, 1588.<sup>3</sup>

John Anion of Ridthrome, 22 April, 1588; body to be buried in Bispham churchyard; gives one tacke of ground in Carleton unto William Anion his brother, and all his children for six years; to the wife of his brother William one brass pot; to Peter Anion and Jenet Anion one ewe hogg; to his sister, wife of Christopher Wade, one brass pot; to Christopher Wade one close of ground during his terme therein; to William Wade, his nephew, one windle of barley; to John and Robert Wade one windle of barley equally between them; the rest to his brother William Anion, whom he appoints executor.

## WILL OF JOHN ANYON, 1584.

In dei. nom. 11 June, 1584 [proved 16 July, 1596], I John Anyon of Warbrecke, yeoman, being visited of God etc. My bodie to Xtian buryial in Bispham Church. All my land, tenements, houses, &c. in Warbreke, and my leases I bequeath to my son John according to a deed of feoffment heretofore made

<sup>1</sup> See *Richmond Wills*, Record Society, vol. x.

<sup>2</sup> Add. MSS. 32,115.

<sup>3</sup> The extracts from British Museum are marked with a \*; the others are from Somerset House.



by me to certain feoffees, which deed beareth date 24 April this year. George my son to be kept at my now dwelling-house during his natural life with sufficient meat, drink, clothes, and necessities for his vocation at the cost of my son John, also 6s. 8d. to be paid to him at Pentecost, St. Michael's, and the Purification of our blessed lady the Virgin. Referees in case of non-payment of the above to be William Anyon of Carleton, Rauf Anyon of Thornewton, James Taylor and Richard Russell of Laton, husbandmen. All my plough gear, &c. to said son John, also all the fallen timber about the house. To each of my servants being in my service at my decease 2s. My interest and tythe which I have in a parcell of land late in occupation of Wm. Darrett of Warbreck, husbandman, unto said John and George. Residue to son John. Executors, Jennet, my wife, and son John. I desire Thos. Eccleston of Eccleston, Esq., to be supervisor of this my will. Inventory follows, total value of goods £413 19s. 8d.

WILL OF RICHARD ANYON, 1560.

In nom. die, &c., in the year of our Lord 1560 and the 9th day of June. I Richard Anyon, though I be visited with the visitation of almighty god, hole in mynde, &c. My Soule to God and the blessed ladye sante Marye and to all the cōpanye of heaven and I desire all the holye cōpanye in heaven to pray for me. My bodye to be buried in the pishe church yarde of bisp<sup>m</sup>. I give to my sonne William Anyon the good wyll of my house for use of my wyff for her life. Also to the said William my plow-gyar, harrow-gyar, and wane-gyar; My wyff Marye to have use of the same for her life. It is also my wyll that my son shall be good to my children as they shall have nede. Residue to my wyff and children. Debts due to:—

Master Alan	vi <sup>s</sup> viii <sup>d</sup>
W <sup>m</sup> Alan	vi <sup>s</sup> iiij <sup>d</sup>
Rich <sup>d</sup> bekrast (?)	xij <sup>d</sup>
Will. Bomber	vij <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>

The Witnesses are Hugh Alan, John Anyon, Will. Bomber, Rich. Warbrecke.

**\*WILL OF JOHN BAMBER, 12 Oct., 1596.**

To be buried in Bispham church. To Robert his son one heffer; Alice his daughter 20s.; to Richard his son one piece of gold of 10s.; his tenement to Richard his son and all his husband-gier; to Edmund Bamber his brother one hackney saddle; one tack of land to Katherine his wife and Richard his son during the term of his lease; the rest to his Wife and children.

**\*WILL OF RICHARD BAMBER, 1587.**

Richard Bamber of Warbrecke, husbandman, 9th Dec., 1587; body to be buried in the parish church of Bispham; his messuage, land, and tenements, after his decease, to the second son of John Anion, his son-in-law begotten upon the body of Joane Bamber, his daughter; in default of issue then to Agnes Bamber, his daughter. To the said Agnes, 40s.; to John Anion, to whom he is grandfather, two ewe sheep; to James Bamber, his servant, 3s. 4d.; the rest, after funeral expenses, to Agnes his daughter. His wife and son John his executors.

**WILL OF LETITIA DAVYE, 1562.**

In die, &c., 7 Aug., 1562. I Letitia Davye, though visited with the visitation of God, hole in mynde &c. Bequeath my bodye to be buryed in the parishe church yard of Bysp̄m. To John Hogeson, my brother, I give a cowe; to Isabell Davye a kertyle; to Janet Wade a pot and a pewter; to wyffe of Henry Davye . . . ; to Janet Wylcock a . . . and a pare of hose; to Robert Hogeson a . . . ; to my godchildren xii<sup>d</sup>; to the church of Bysp̄m ij<sup>s</sup>; to Alexander Sontans xij<sup>d</sup>; a bed for the poor folke to lie upon; all the rest, after funeral expenses and debts to be given to the poor. Debts oweing:—

To Thomas Bamber	ij <sup>s</sup>
„ „ „ of Warbrecke	vi <sup>s</sup>



To William Bamber	ii <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>
„ Master Telleslaye	v <sup>s</sup> viij <sup>d</sup>
In church duttes	i <sup>s</sup>
Mr. Sherborne	vj <sup>s</sup>

\*WILL OF RICHARD FFISHER OF BISPHAM, 1593.

Richard ffisher of Bispham, 10 May, 1593; to be buried in Bispham churchyard. He assigns with the consent of his landlord William fleetwood, Esq., the whole interest of his tenement to William ffisher his son; his wife Margaret to have her widow's right; to his wife one feather bed; to Thomas and William his sons all his husband-gear; to Margaret his daughter a coverlet; to Thomas his son two oxen; to William his son two stirks; to Margaret ffisher, his brother Cuthbert's daughter, 31s.; one tack of ground which he leased of Henry Lytham he gives to his brother Cuthbert; to William ffisher, his brother John's son, his black "fustian dublet"; to John ffisher his brother his best white dublet; to Katherine and Jane, daughters of his brother John, one ewe a piece; to William, Richard, and John ffisher, his brother Cuthbert's children, one ewe a piece; the rest to his Wife and his sons Thomas and William.

WILL OF JOHN HOGESON, 1559.

In the name of God, &c. In the year 1559, 6 Aug. I, John Hogeson . . . though I be seke in my bodye yett hole in my mynd, do make, &c. I bequeath my soull to Almyghtie God, and I desire the holye fellowshippe of heaven to pray for me; my body to be buryed in the church of Bysp̄m; to Richard, my son one ewe and a lamb; to Henry my son all my plowgyre, wane-gyre, arrowe-gyre, wyth all thyrof belonging; to Anne my doughter one ewe and a lamb; to Jenet my daughter one ewe and a lamb; the rest of all my goods over my buryall and funerall expenses I give unto my wyffe and children, so that my wyff have the third part of all. I constitute my wyffe and my son Henry executors to execute and fulfyll this my last will



and testament, as thye wyll make answer at the day of dome,  
these being witnesses hereof John Lethü, Wyff Lethü.

## INVENTORY.

	<i>li</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Itm one yoke of bullock	iiij	o	o
„ two kye	o	x	o
„ a heffer styrke	o	vi	viiij
„ two caulfes [calves]	o	v	o
„ „ marris [mares]	o	xxvi	viiij
„ a mare & a colte	o	xiiij	iiij
„ ij quarter of barley	o	xxxij	o
„ ij quarter of hotts [oats]	o	xxxij	o
„ a wyndyle of pyes [peas]	o	o	xx
„ a motte of . . .	o	iiij	o
„ two ewes iiij lambs	o	viiij	o
„ aye [hay]	o	v	o
„ turves	o	v	o
„ . . . & two gysse [geese]	o	iiij	o
„ ij swyne	o	v	o
„ a wayne & a pare of guyles	o	vj	viiij
„ a harrowe	o	o	xx
„ a plue [plough]	o	xij	o
„ pewdre & brass & one poue	o	x	o
„ a brandeth, &c.	o	xvj	o
„ beydyng	o	v	o
„ shepyn . . .	o	iiij	o
„ flaxe & hempe	o	xx	o
Sum Total	<u>xiiiij</u>	<u>xj</u>	<u>viiij</u>

\*WILL OF MARGARET ROSSALL, 1578.

Margaret Rossall, 17 Mar., 1578, widow, late wife of William Rossall; her bodye to be buried in the "parish churchyard of Byspham." To Thomas, her brother's son, one yoke of oxen



and all her husband-gear; to William Bane, her brother's son, 3s. 4d.; her tenement to Thomas Bane; to Elizabeth Winders her daughter one brass pot; residue to her brother's son, Thomas Bane, and her daughter Elizabeth Winders.

\*WILL OF HENRY WARBRECKE, 1580.

Henry Warbrecke of Laton, 4 Jan., 1580; body to be buried in the churchyard of Bispham. To Alice his daughter one feather bed and furniture for same; to Jane his daughter the like; to the five children of Robert Whiteside 2s. a piece; to the four children of George Cowben 2s. each; to the three daughters of his son William 2s. a piece; to Ellen and Elizabeth Warbreck 2s. a piece; to Alice his wife and William his son a close of land between them for the term of his lease; one other "tack" of ground in Marton to the said Alice and William; another "tack" to his Wife and daughters Jane and Alice.

---

TOWNSHIP ASSESSMENT, 1706.

May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1706. An assessem<sup>t</sup> laid for the relieve of the poor within the Township of Bispham-cum-Norbrecke in the said county assessed by the Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor within that towns<sup>p</sup> for the year 1706, as followeth:—

	£	s.	d.
Tho Tyldesley Esq <sup>r</sup> for tyth corne	00	04	10½
William Hornby	00	02	06
Richard Singleton	00	00	06
John Bickerstaffe	00	00	03
Dorathy Gaskell	00	02	06
Richard Tounsand	00	03	00
George Hesketh	00	01	00
Richard Anyon	00	02	06
Richard Wade	00	00	03
Anne Pearson	00	00	09
William Miller	00	00	03

	£	s.	d.
William Lythame	00	01	03
George Rossall	00	01	00
John Capper	00	00	03
Richard Hodgson	00	00	03
John Whiteside	00	00	03
James Hull	00	01	09
Sarah Salthouse	00	01	03
William Bamber	00	03	00
Matthew Hull	00	03	09
William Bamber jun <sup>r</sup>	00	03	10½
Henry ffletcher	00	00	06
Jennet Biggins	00	01	00
William ffisher	00	02	03
Edward Whiteside	00	00	04½
Jonathan Bamber	00	02	00
John Lambe	00	00	06
James Sanderson and } Robert Broadbelt }	00	01	03
John fforshawe	00	01	01½
Alexander Smithson	00	00	06
Geo & John Hull	00	00	07½
Marg <sup>t</sup> Curret	00	00	01½
Jo. Butcher	00	01	00
Jo. Anyon	00	00	06
Marg <sup>t</sup> Elston	00	00	07½
William Walker	00	06	
<hr/>			
Totall	£02	07	04½

Seen & allowed by us principall inhabitants of & in the said  
Tounship.

James Sanderson.  
Mathew Hull.  
Robart Roskell.<sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup> Original MS. in possession of Mr. Asburn of Manchester.



## ORIGIN OF THE NAME BISPHAM.

Whitaker is responsible for the idea that the Biscopham of Domesday survey took its name from its having at a very early date contained a mansion belonging to or inhabited by one of the Archbishops of York. To support this theory there is not one tittle of evidence, and it may be set aside as being simply an attempt to account for the name.

There are two Bisphams in Lancashire and one in Cheshire, and as it is an undoubted fact that there was a powerful Saxon family of the name of Biscop in England in the 7th century (if not earlier) it is at least possible that these places may have taken their names from the early owners of the soil, and subsequently have given the name thus acquired to other owners. At all events it is as likely that the "ham" denoted the dwelling place or settlement of a race called Biscop, as that it is evidence of an ancient episcopal residence.

A family of the name of Bispham held the manor of Bispham in Croston parish for many centuries. A pedigree signed by Henry St. George Norroy, king of arms,<sup>1</sup> commences with Matthew de Bispham, lord of the manor of Bispham, who died in the time of King John. A family of the same name also held possessions in Bispham in the Fylde at a very early date (see p. 3).

## ANGERSHOLME.

This is no doubt the Angolyhomos named in a charter of the 13th century, whereby a right to wash sheep was granted by the Abbot of Dieulacres to William Karleton and others [see page 2]; and in another charter of about the same date it is called Angelmosse.

In the beginning of the present century a large quantity of human bones were dug up here, which were afterwards buried in Bispham churchyard. It is probably this fact that gave rise to the tradition that in early times a great battle was fought here. In 1640 the name Thomas Shaw of Angersom, several

<sup>1</sup> Harl. MSS. 2042.

times appears in the parish registers; subsequently the property was owned by one of the Bambers [see page 118].

#### ROAD SIDE CROSS.

At a place near Knowl, now known as Leys, formerly stood one of those crosses at one time so common in the Fylde. In the Poulton register of 1656 it is called *Ley Crosse*, in the following year it appears as *Le Cross*, and in 1685 it is designated *Low Cross*. It has long ago disappeared.

#### PENNY STONE.

This is a large stone about half a mile from the shore, which can only be approached at low tide. Hutton<sup>1</sup> is responsible for the statement that "according to tradition, which was allowed by the whole country, a public house some ages back stood by that stone . . . and that iron hooks had been fixed in the stone to which travellers hung their horses while they drank their penny pots, from whence the stone acquired and still bears the name of Penny-stone." The hooks, he adds, had then (in 1788) long been gone. Thornber, writing in 1837,<sup>2</sup> adds to this tradition, and says that he had heard it asserted "that about eighty or ninety years ago, when a most awful storm occurred, accompanied by some violent concussion of the waters, the deep sand in whose bed one half of Pennystone generally lies buried, being swept away, walls, evidently encircling an enclosure, were seen by a gentleman who lived in the neighbourhood." There is no documentary evidence that an inn ever stood here, but for all that it may only be another instance of tradition preserving what history has overlooked.

No doubt the effects of some unrecorded storm are recorded in the popular saying in the district :—

"Penny stood, Carlin fled, Redbank ran away."

<sup>1</sup> *Hist. of Blackpool*, p. 34.

<sup>2</sup> *Hist. of Blackpool*, p. 248. Mr. Thornber wrote a pamphlet entitled "Penny-stone," in which the scene of the tale was the Inn of Pennystone.



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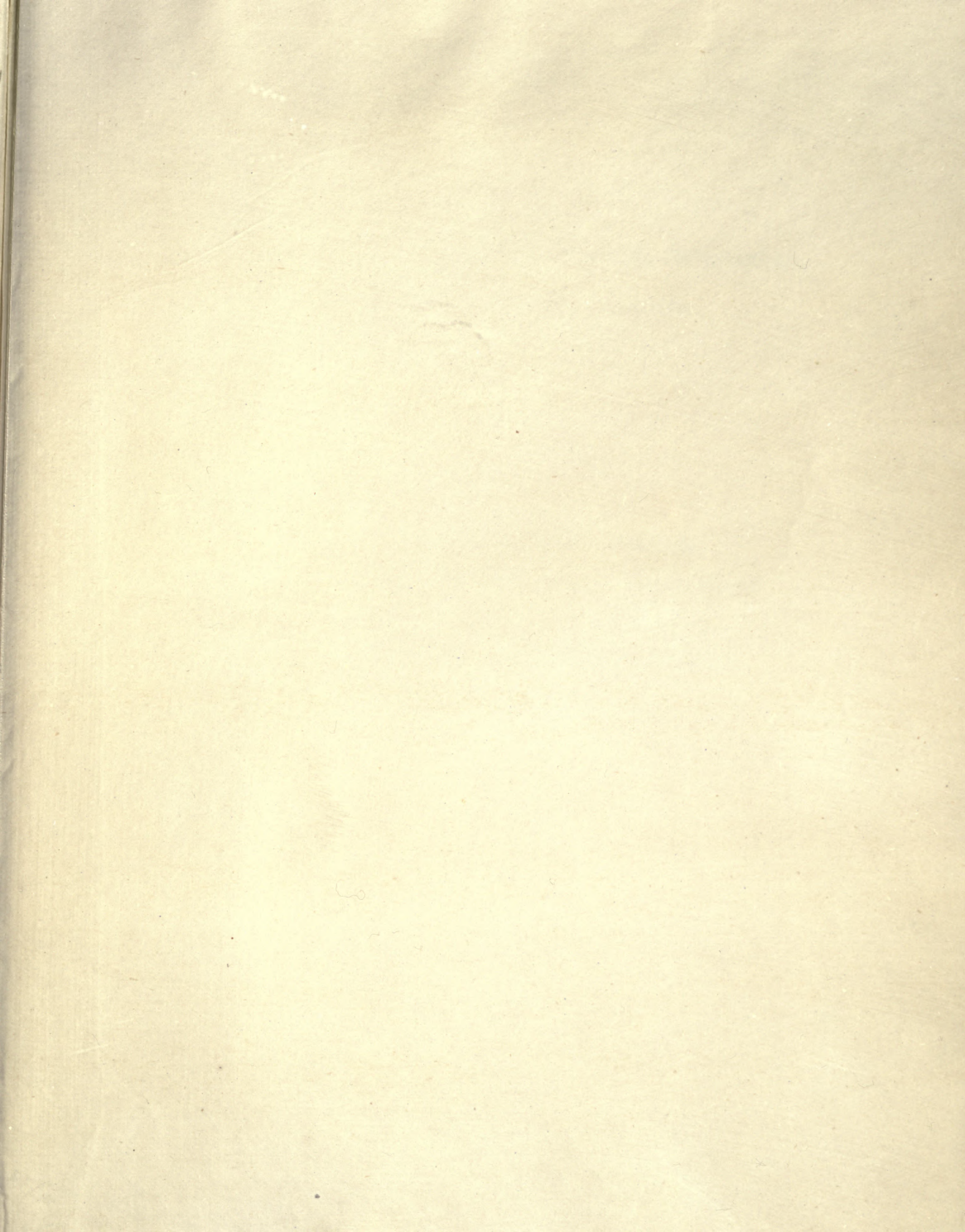
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